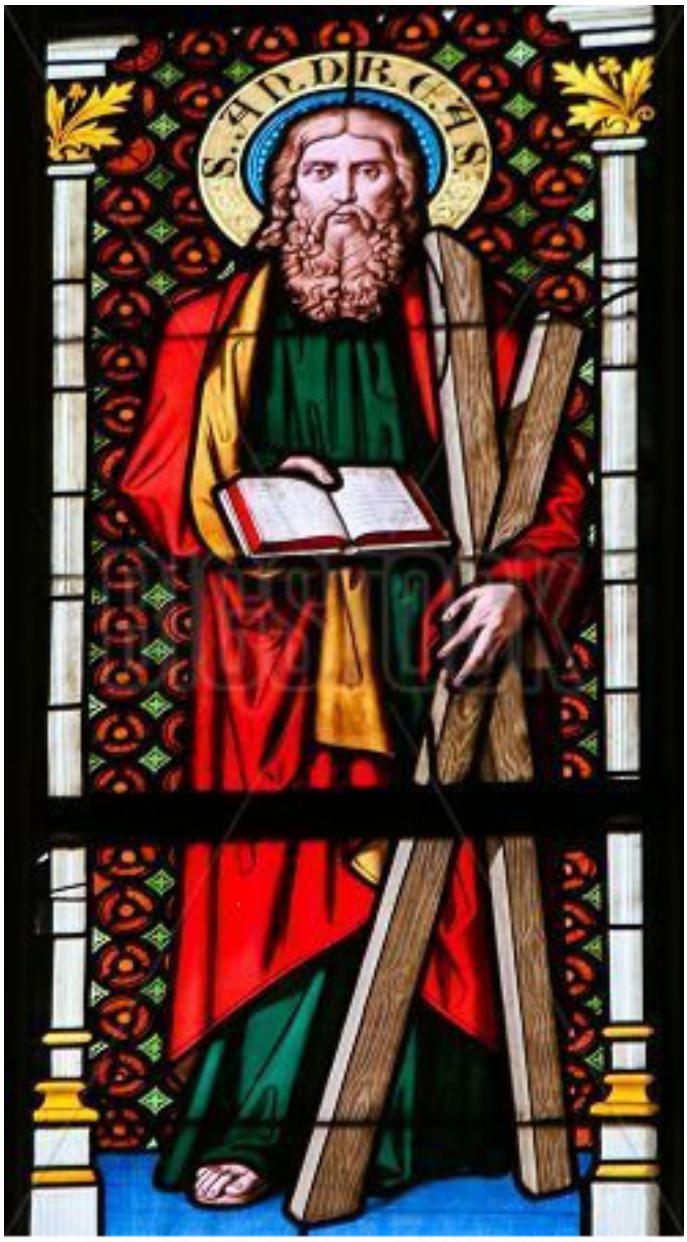
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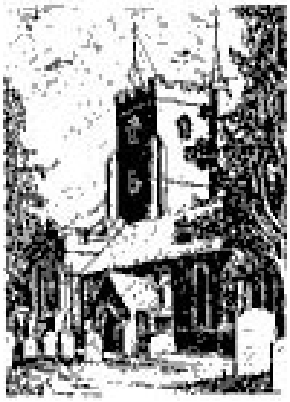
The Magazine of the Folkestone Town Benefice of

St Mary and St Eanswythe

with

St Saviour

Volume 53 No, 11 **November 2026** *£1.20*



Who's Who in the Parish

Clergy

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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**

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**
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
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Safeguarding Officer Elaine Furminger safeguarding.sme@gmail.com 07974 140713
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St Eanswythe's, Church Street Head Teacher - Claire Jacobs 255516
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email: **sainteanswythe@gmail.com**

Front Cover: Saint Andrew carrying a representation of the diagonal cross that he was crucified on

Guidelines for contributors are on page 2

CALENDAR

Services and Events in November 2026

Sun	1	**All Saints Day**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST
		19:00	Caritas Choir 'Christ's Love' Music of devotion, sacrifice, mercy and divine love
Thu	5	10:30	Holy Communion BCP
		11:15	Thursday Study Club
Sun	8	**Remembrance Sunday**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST With Children's Church
Thu	12	10:30	Holy Communion BCP
Sun	15	**2nd Sunday Before Advent**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST
Thu	19	8:45	School Eucharist
		10:30	Holy Communion BCP
Sat	21	10:00	Birthday cakes for Jesus!
Sun	22	**Christ the King**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST
Thu	26	10:30	Holy Communion BCP
Sun	29	**First Sunday of Advent**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST
		16:00	'Waiting for God' Music and Readings for Advent Sunday
Mon	30	**Andrew the Apostle**	
		10:30	Eucharist





December

Thu	3	10:30	Holy Communion BCP
		11:15	Thursday Study Club
Sun	6	**Second Sunday of Advent**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST
Thu	10	10:30	Holy Communion BCP
Sun	13	**Third Sunday of Advent**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST With Children's Church
Thu	17	10:30	Holy Communion BCP
		19:00	Harvey Grammar Carol Service
Fri	18	13:45	St Eanswythe's School Service
Sat	19	11:00	Ukrainian hospitality
Sun	20	**Fourth Sunday of Advent**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST
		16:00	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Thu	24	**Christmas Eve**	
		10:30	Holy Communion BCP
		16:00	Crib Service
		23:30	Midnight Mass
Fri	25	**Christmas Day**	
		10:30	SUNG EUCHARIST



Guidance for contributors

The deadline for Rendezvous contributions is the 15th of each month, but December 10th for the January edition.

We are always keen to receive content for Rendezvous. A page of text is about 500 words (a page in 16 point type will also give you an idea of what fits) and we aim to keep articles to one or two pages. Please discuss longer items with Andrew Plested or Catriona Hunter before submission.

We reserve the right to edit all contributions.

If you would like to advertise your business in Rendezvous, please get in touch with Paul Furminger. Advertising rates can be found on page 24.

What do you think about Rendezvous?

Please let us have your feedback. Was there something in this issue that you particularly enjoyed reading? Or something you didn't like so much?

Andrew Plested and Catriona Hunter would welcome your comments.

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 Monday, 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

Priest's Letter

From Father Chris



With November's arrival, we reach a time in the Church's year where we naturally pause and remember (except the fact that it'll soon be December). At the beginning of the month we take time to remember those whom we love but see no longer, giving particular thanks for those who have encouraged us in life and in faith. Later this month we'll also recall the sacrifice made by so many down the decades who have given their lives in the cause of freedom and in defence of others and this nation.

It's also an opportunity to reflect on the examples of the great figures, the saints, of the Christian faith; those whose devotion to God was manifested in so many different ways down the ages. These are figures who came from all sorts of backgrounds: rich & poor, male & female, from every race and language and nation. Together they help create the 'great cloud of witnesses' (as the epistle to the Hebrews puts it) which enriches our common life even in the present day. Many of these saints endured hardship, challenge and persecution for their devotion to Christ. Others were able to demonstrate the power of their faith through simple devotion, loving care to others, or in strength of learning and teaching. Some we don't know much about, others have had legends attached to their name for many years – some helpfully, some amusingly, some less so.

One issue we sometimes face in the present age, perhaps as our forebears may also have found too, is that it's easy to append attributes to those who can no longer challenge them. "Oh, N loved that sort of thing." "Y wouldn't stand for that…" Whilst there may be elements of truth in that, it's a tricky line to tread. We sometimes see this played out in the use of legends, such as St George as a patriotic figure for the English people, through to assumptions about why someone might have chosen to serve their country in different ways. Memory can occasionally be unhelpfully clouded or shaped by the intention to make a point.

One of the ways in which the example of the saints gives us a helpful nudge is in calling us to look beyond this world towards God and the call he places upon our lives. That's not to say that we're to remove ourselves from the challenges of this world or to ignore them, but it's a valuable reminder that there's a divine perspective far beyond our own and one that's much broader than our own limited viewpoint. As we try to live out our calling in our own time, how can the memories and example of those known to us; the great and varied saintly cloud of witnesses down the ages; and, above all, the clear example of the life of Jesus play a part in our approach towards others and, sometimes, ourselves too?

With very best wishes,

The Reader's Ramblings - Remembrance



November always invites us to pause, look back, and honour those whose lives were shaped by conflict. In parish life we rightly remember the fallen, but my thoughts are often drawn to those who stepped forward to serve without taking up arms. Their courage is quieter, but no less remarkable.

We often picture the VAD as a women's organisation and indeed thousands of young women offered their time, strength, and compassion in hospitals at home and abroad. Yet they were not alone. Men who were too old to enlist, or who did not meet the medical threshold for service, also joined the VAD. They drove ambulances, carried stretchers, and worked in casualty clearing stations.

One of these was Lawrence Binyon. We remember him for *For the Fallen*, now part of our national remembrance tradition. But Binyon did more than write. In his fifties, beyond military age, he volunteered as a VAD ambulance driver in France. It is an often-overlooked detail which reminds us that remembrance is not only about those who fought, but also those who served where they could.

Alongside Binyon, I've been drawn to figures like Dorothea Crewdson, whose diary paints a vivid picture of VAD life: hard work, small joys, and heartbreak met with resilience. Her service reminds me that courage often looks like steadfastness rather than heroics.

Beyond the VAD, countless civilians shaped the war effort: chaplains, factory workers, codebreakers, artists, writers, and families who opened their homes to refugees. Their names rarely appear on memorials, yet their service helped hold society together under immense strain.

As we mark Remembrance this year, I think of this wider communion of witnesses: those who served through compassion, creativity, endurance, and duty. Their stories broaden our understanding of courage and remind us that, in war and peace alike, courage takes many forms.

Vicky Friedrich, Reader

We Have a New Donation Station

Since it was installed in December 2020, our Donation Station has taken well over £15,000. Much of this is money we would not otherwise have received. However, those of you who use the Donation Station regularly will have noticed recently that it has not been working very reliably, and the PCC agreed that we needed a replacement.

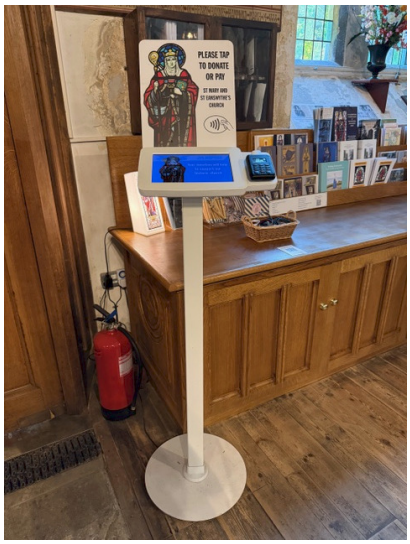
The issue was that the battery in our Donation Station was reaching the end of its natural life and could not be replaced. Furthermore, the old Donation Station could not be upgraded to Windows 11, meaning that we would be unable to upgrade the software.

An advantage of the new model is that, from next year, should problems with the WiFi occur, it will transfer automatically to offline mode and store details of any donations received; the previous model did not work offline, so if the WiFi was down, it couldn't accept donations. We will also receive the money from any donations far more quickly now, because not only is the system integrated with the Parish Giving Scheme, there is also less bureaucracy involved for us to claim any Gift Aid.

Designs have changed slightly over the past 6 years, and now that we have our beautiful new display unit the new Donation Station sits on one end and, we think it looks very smart indeed.

When you come to use it, you'll find that it works just the same way as the previous one did, and you can use it to make donations or to pay for goods such as items from the sales table, your Rendezvous subscription, or even your coffee. The only difference that you may notice is that it is now fully contactless, so you can no longer insert your card in the reader. Of course, the banks set a limit on the size of contactless donations – currently £100. Should you wish to make a donation above that amount all you have to do is use Apple Pay or Google Pay, which have a higher limit, or carry out more than one transaction.

See below for before and after photos.



---------->



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)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH!

St Mary & St Eanswythe Folkestone

SUNDAY AUGUST 9TH

It's all about believing ✓ 🙏 🙏 🙏

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH

🥰 🥰 🥰 ✓ It's all about forgiveness

SUNDAY OCTOBER 11TH

It's all about God's amazing invitation ✓ 🎉 🎉

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

🙌 🙌 🙌 It's all about being ready

NOVEMBER 21ST SATURDAY 10AM

It's all about making Birthday Cakes for Jesus! 🎂 🎂

Children's Church - It's all about GOD'S AMAZING INVITATION!

Amazing Invitation

to Jesus's Party

Come to the Feast

Everyone Welcome

At Children's Church we prepared for A PARTY!

We decorated biscuits – ready to share for a feast. Our plan was not only for a feast in the Upper Room, but also to share with EVERYONE in church.



Invitations were given and

the cloth was spread.

We sat together to sing our thanks to God for all our food.









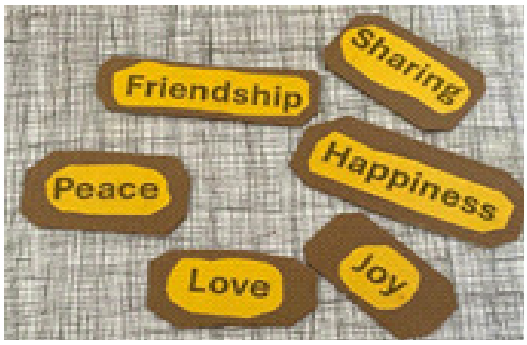
Thank you God for giving us food!
Thank you God for giving us food!
We're truly grateful for every plateful
Thank you God for giving us food!

(think of Superman and you'll remember the tune easily!)

We welcomed each other to our feast and Friendship, Sharing,



Happiness, Love, Peace and Joy were all there too!



Then off we went into church to share in the meal of the Kingdom and receive God's blessing and to share our invitation to extra special biscuits with coffee after the service!



Clare Tomlinson

Next time – (8th November) it's all about being ready!

AND don't forget to save the date Saturday, 21st November, 10-11.30 for

Birthday Cakes for Jesus

CHILDREN'S CHURCH!

St Mary & St Eanswythe
Folkestone

Birthday cakes for Jesus!



21st November
10 - 11:30am

- Reserve your place by contacting the parish office

sainteanswythe@gmail.com

(all children must be accompanied by an adult.)

SAVE THE DATE!

A Century of Faith in Altona:
Celebrating 100 Years of St Eanswythe's, Melbourne



Greetings to our friends at St Mary & St Eanswythe's in Folkestone. As many of you know, our parish in Altona, Melbourne carries a unique connection with yours. When the Reverend W. H. Edwards became vicar here in 1928, he named this church *St Eanswythe's* in honour of .the English saint and in recognition of his earlier ministry in Folkestone. It is a bond that we value and your recent message of congratulations for our centenary was received with warmth and appreciation.

This year, our parish marked 100 years of Anglican worship in Altona—a milestone that invited celebration and reflection. Our centenary service brought together our three congregations: St Eanswythe's, St Clement's, and our Māori congregation, Te Wairua Tapu Ki Pōipiripi. The worship was deeply moving, with uplifting singing, prayers offered in first languages, and a enormous sense of unity. As I wrote to parishioners afterwards, *"I felt that God's Spirit was truly upon us as we gave thanks for the life and witness of our parish."*

The celebration continued over lunch prepared by parishioners. The gathering was outstanding—plentiful food, nicely arranged tables, and the joy of conversation as old friends reconnected. Bishop Kate Prowd, who has long supported our parish, cut the centenary cake, adding a sense of occasion and continuity.

We were blessed to welcome several former vicars and their spouses, each of whom shared memories of ministry that reminded us of the enduring character of our parish: hospitality, resilience, and a commitment to serving the community. Their reflections spanned decades—from the establishment of children's playgroups, multicultural ministry through to the challenges of Covid lockdowns, and even the unforgettable morning when the roof of St Clement's blew off in a storm.

Our centenary encouraged us to revisit the beginnings of Anglican worship in Altona. In 1917, Rev. R. H. B. Williams travelled from Newport by steam train to hold services on the Altona pier. By 1926, a small congregation was meeting in the Progress Hall, with early records showing modest attendance but an impressive forty-two children at the first Sunday School.

The parish worshipped in several buildings over the years. A former Methodist church was hauled to the present site of our church in 1929, then replaced in 1933 by a wooden structure from Laverton. This remained in use until 1969, when it was demolished to make way for the present church. The foundation stone was laid in 1970, and the new building was dedicated on St Eanswythe's Day that same year.

The parish's development has been marked by resilience. Lay readers sustained ministry for twenty-five years, and a favourable land lease in the early 1960s enabled property growth, including the vicarage. In 1992, St Clement's, Laverton joined the parish, with its modern church completed in 2002.

Today, St Eanswythe's reflects the multicultural character of Melbourne. Our Māori congregation brings powerful song and deep spirituality to parish life, and our wider community includes people from many nations and cultures. We remain a place where all are welcomed and encouraged to share their gifts in faithful service to God.

As we celebrate this centenary, we give thanks for our shared heritage with Folkestone and for the example of St Eanswythe, whose love for God and service to others continues to inspire our parish.

Rev'd Kerry Davis
Vicar, Parish of St Eanswythe's, Altona with St Clement's, Laverton



The Lady Chapel



Centenary Service



Church Interior



Bookworm – What Catriona has Been Reading

The Burning Tide – William Shaw (2026)

This is the second book in the Eden Driscoll series set in Teignmouth, Devon. Eden is still coming to terms with being guardian to his 9 year old nephew, Finn, following the death of his sister, Finn's mother. Not only that, he has had to move to Teignmouth to look after Finn and thus give up his job as a sergeant in the Met.

But once a police officer, always a police officer, and Eden soon finds himself involved in a multiple murder investigation. Because right at the start of the book a stranger approaches him and says that someone is trying to kill him. Before Eden can find out any more the stranger disappears.

As the body count rises, and Eden finds himself in some jolly dangerous situations, the book also addresses environmental issues such as rewilding and ecology, homelessness and begging, grief, seaside town life vs London city life, police corruption, and of course the developing relationship between Finn and Eden. Lots of apparently good people turn out to be very bad indeed, and many of them end up dead.

While this wasn't as fast paced as some of William Shaw's books, it was none the worse for that. It was a very good read, with an interesting plot, and I enjoyed it very much. As always, I look forward to the next in the series.

The Woman Who Lied – Claire Douglas (2023)

I think this book should be called Everybody Lied, because there are a lot of fibbers in it. Some of the people who seem good turn out to be baddies. And some of the apparent baddies are actually good people. But I found it difficult to know who to trust and it all got a bit confusing when it became clear that not everyone was who they appeared to be. On the other hand, there were people who I didn't believe were who they said they were, but turned out to be genuine.

Added to this there are three different narrators and you don't know who they are or whether they can be trusted. And, as with all good psychological thrillers, there is a bit of gaslighting and lots of twists in the plot, most of which I didn't see coming.

So, all in all this was a good read that kept me engrossed for several days. However, my advice to you would be don't go to bed half way through the reveal at the end like I did. It just made the final 40 pages that I read over breakfast more complicated than they needed to be.

Murder Is Easy – Agatha Christie (1938)

This was a nice easy read, with a good mystery. Unusually for Agatha Christie there was a romance element in the story too.

We had watched this on television last year, but I think I had done my usual thing of falling asleep before the end because I couldn't remember whodunnit!

It's one of her earlier books and features neither Poirot nor Miss Marple. Instead, the multiple murders are investigated by Luke Fitzwilliam and Bridget Conway.

Meanwhile the bumbling local police consider the deaths to be accidents.

It's a clever plot that takes the reader down lots of blind alleys. Most enjoyable – apart from the author's blatant homophobia. Lovely cover too.

Catriona Hunter



THURSDAY STUDY CLUB

Thursday 5th November
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 / 07931 804952

St Mary & St Eanswythe's Church

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Kent CT20 3QA



Commemoration - Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln
17 November



Hugh was born at Avalon in Burgundy in 1140 and at first made his profession with the Augustinian canons but, when he was twenty-five, he became a monk at Grande Chartreuse. In about 1175, he was invited by the English king, Henry II, to become prior of his Charterhouse foundation at Witham in Somerset, badly in need of reform even though it had been only recently founded. In 1186, Hugh was persuaded to accept the See of Lincoln, then the largest diocese in the land. He brought huge energy to the diocese and, together with discerning appointments to key posts, he revived the Lincoln schools, repaired and enlarged the cathedral, visited the See extensively, drew together the clergy to meet in synod and generally brought an efficiency and stability to the Church which was to be much emulated. Hugh also showed great compassion for the poor and the oppressed, ensuring that sufferers of leprosy were cared for and that Jews were not persecuted. He both supported his monarch and also held out against any royal measures he felt to be extreme, yet managing not to make an enemy of the king. He died in London on this day in the year 1200.

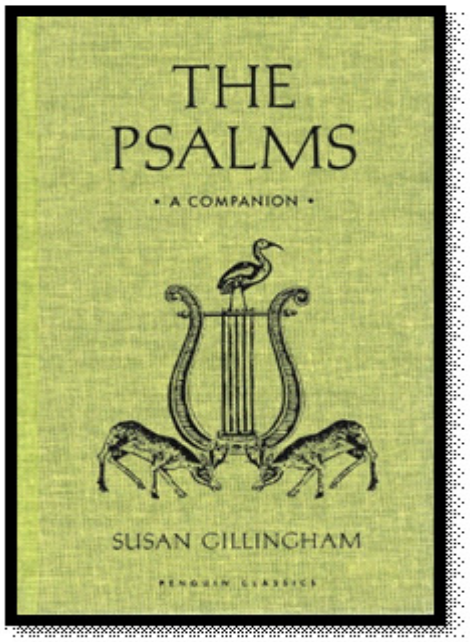
Collect

O God,
who endowed your servant Hugh
with a wise and cheerful boldness
and taught him to commend to earthly rulers
the discipline of a holy life:
give us grace like him to be bold in the service of the gospel,
putting our confidence in Christ alone,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Readings*:*

OT *Micah 6. 6-8; NT 1 Timothy 6. 11-16; Gospel Luke 9. 51-56*

The Psalms – A Companion



This is a new companion to the Psalms, published by Penguin Classics in 2026, with a commentary by Susan Gillingham, Emeritus Professor of the Hebrew Bible at the University of Oxford and Emeritus Fellow at Worcester College, Oxford.

From my days as a chorister, the Psalms have fascinated me by their wide variety of subject and their place in Christian Worship, particularly Choral Evensong. Some of them seemed scarcely Christian in their content whilst others reflected a calmer and more thoughtful and inspired vision of the Creator God.

Each psalm in this book is printed in the New Revised Standard translation of 1989 and Susan Gillingham's companion provides a feast of information and background to each of them. The book opens with a preface to the commentary full of background and detail. I am finding it absorbing, educational and inspiring in equal measure.

Published in hardback, by Penguin Classics and costs a hefty £30, but at over 750 pages it provides great value for money.

Mentor

What our Church Looked Like in 1900



Sunday Eucharist and Red Letter Day Gospels

Sunday 1 November – 4th Sunday before Advent Matthew 5.1-12.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled

Sunday 8 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 15 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 22 November – Christ the King Matthew 25.31-end
'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'

Common Worship Year B begins

Sunday 29 November – Advent Sunday Mark 13.24-37
'What I say to you I say to all: Keep awake'



RED LETTER DAYS

Sunday 1 November – All Saints' Day Matthew 5.1-12.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Monday 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.

A Special Trip To Wales

Since Fr John left us in April 2024 we had always intended to visit him on our quest to visit all the Anglican cathedrals. Having visited the majority of the English cathedrals, we needed to plan to see the six in Wales - St Asaph and Bangor Cathedrals in the north and St David's, Llandaff, Newport and Brecon Cathedrals in the south. Sadly, too many things cropped up so we had not progressed this.

We were delighted to receive the news that John and Deb were getting married and to receive an invitation.

The round trip is some 500 miles, which we could have done as a day trip but, as the wedding was at 11:30 and mindful of the M25 in the morning peak we decided to take 2 days. So, on the Thursday we set off for Brecon to visit the Cathedral before driving on to Kington, which is just inside England roughly level with Hereford for an overnight stay The following morning we set off in the rain for Pilleth, some 10 miles to the west passing through the curiously named hamlet of Floodgates.

Pilleth is a tiny hamlet with some 5 houses and, further up the hill stands the 13th century church of St Mary. We arrived a little early but waited until people started arriving and then climbed up the bank to the church, listening to various organ pieces played on a 2-manual Harmonium. Soon, the Happy Couple arrived and the service started. Afterwards there were cakes and drinks before we all went outside to see the couple emerge into wonderfully bright and hot sunshine and, of course, bombard them with dried petal confetti. Followed by lunch at the vicarage.



It was good to see them both happy in their new surroundings.

Andrew







Coming soon!

In early 2027 we intend to host a film weekend in the church! Stow Film Lounge, based in Walthamstow and owned by Nick Bertram (Chruchwarden Tom Bertram's eldest son) will be showing two films: **The Glen Miller Story & Casablanca.**

As well as showing these two classic films at the church, Nick will also be in Folkestone as part of Folkestone Film Festival, where he'll be taking part in a Q&A session related to his independent film **The Sale** – A ghost story with links to Dymchurch.

Join our mailing list to hear the latest on when we'll be showing the films, or keep an eye on our socials!





Stow
F·I·L·M
DISCOVER CINEMA

Dates For Your Diary

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

Monday, 23 November	7 p.m.	PCC Meeting
Sunday, 29 November	4 p.m.	Advent Carol Service
Thursday 10 December	6 p.m. tbc	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	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
2027		
Thursday, 13 May – Sunday, 16 May		Sacconi Festival

Pause for thought

This famous poem cropped up at a recent Thursday Discussion Group meeting.

Christ Has No Hands but Ours

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

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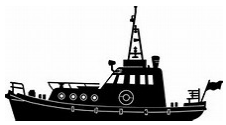
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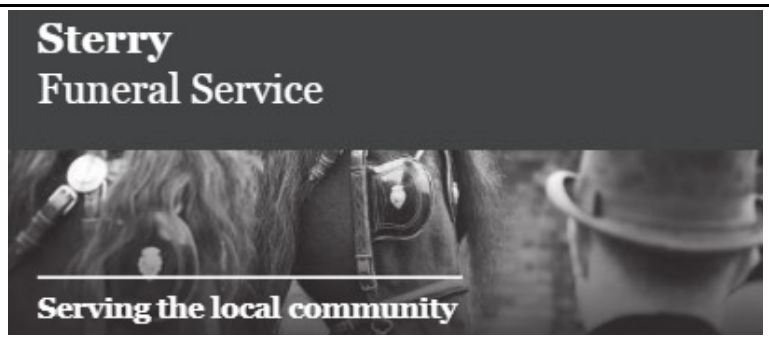
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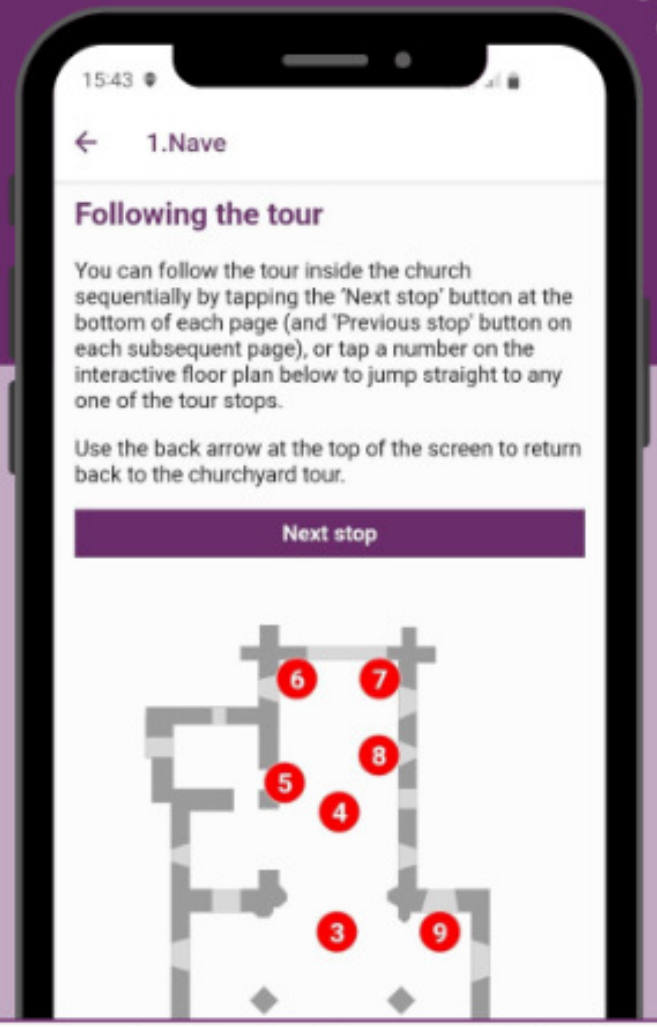
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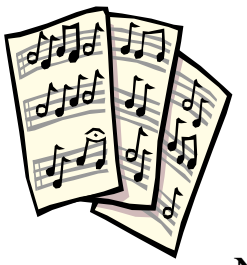
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Music Notes

3 p.m. SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2026

A CONCERT NOT TO BE MISSED!

Not ONE but TWO String young string quartets presenting a programme including Mendelssohn's magnificent Octet (composed when he was just 14 years old!) and a WORLD PREMIERE of 'Tales of Love and War' for string octet by Matthew Brown, a graduate of Canterbury Christ Church University and an old friend of Bayle Music.

Admission: £20 for adults with children and full-time students FREE.

In advance online at https://www.ticketsource.com/bayle-music

OR By cash or card on the day – doors open at 2.30 p.m.

Please note that parking regulations on The Leas around The Grand have changed for the winter months allowing parking for three hours without charge or permit.

Fire at the Parish Church

From the Folkestone Herald 14 February 1920

A somewhat serious fire occurred at the Folkestone Parish Church in the early morning of Wednesday [11 February]. The outbreak originated in the boiler house and when discovered, the flames were penetrating through the door. The Fire Brigade was summoned by the police but for nearly half an hour the heat from the brickwork prevented an entrance being made by the stairway. Eventually the brickwork was cooled by water and the fire speedily extinguished by water from hydrants. The door, gas meter, piping, electric wiring etc. were burnt whilst the stonework was cracked. The damage, estimated at about £75, is covered by insurance. The primary cause of the outbreak is unknown, but the secondary cause was the ignition of gas escaping from melted pipes at the meter.

Thanks as ever to Rob Mouland for yet another episode from our church's history.

From the Parish Registers

Baptism *We welcome into the Lord's family*

September	Ruben Mooring
October	Oliver Clayton-Lawler
	Taron Parker



Living History at Dudley

The Black Country Living Museum at Dudley, with its cottages, coal mine, shops, school and chapel, and life recreated from the 1920s to 50s, can conjure many thoughts and emotions. Nostalgia perhaps among older visitors on seeing items remembered from childhood. For me it was the shooting range at the 1950s fairground and the memory of my father, who'd been with the Eighth Army at El Alamein in 1942, teaching me how to shoot a rifle. Much younger people may be amazed that water was once heated over coal fires for baths in a tin tub before that same fire.

Such places can also make us think of what we have gained and what we have lost.

Working class industrial villages, like the one recreated were generally home to groups of extended families who'd lived there for generations. People worked at jobs within a few miles. They bought from a limited range of goods in local shops. They rarely travelled beyond England. Entertainment was self created or what was on offer nearby.

Nevertheless, such communities were close and trusting. Everyone knew everyone. Women chatted in shops to the grandmothers, sisters and daughters of families known to them. Men discussed pay and conditions at the Workers Institute with fellow miners, chain-makers and bargemen who were also neighbours, Families crowding the Methodist Chapel not only worshipped God there, but also paid their weekly contribution to a Christmas Club, planned summer community picnics, and noticed if an elderly neighbour was missing and might therefore need help.





Those limited items in shops could also last a lifetime. And if a metal bucket or bathtub sprung a leak, then the local blacksmith fixed it. The local cobbler resoled men's boots, and a local dressmaker, who might also be a competent midwife, made or altered a range of dresses and skirts.

In our own time people are more mobile and widely travelled. Many have crossed the globe more than once. Our choices are limitless; food from the entire world at supermarkets and clothes online from China. We talk to our friends and relatives on Zoom. We have many gadgets to make life easier. We are healthier and live longer.

But, for all our wealth and health maybe we have also lost something. Many families are fractured, with the elderly often consigned to care homes and young people suffering chronic anxiety. We also discard things with casual abandon. So, a visit to the Black Country Museum can be more than just a fascinating day out – it can also remind us of the values of community, of caring for possessions, of sharing time with family and friends, and of neighbourliness.

Jean Hatton







SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29th 4pm





An advent carol service

WAITING FOR GOD

inc HYMNS
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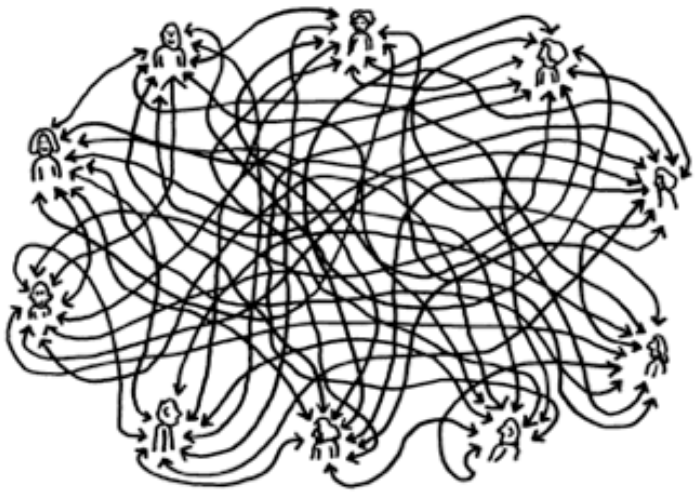
St Mary & St Eanswythe's church



THE PEACE

IT IS TRADITIONAL FOR EVERYONE IN THE CHURCH TO SHAKE THE HAND OF EVERY OTHER PERSON IN THE CHURCH

THIS DIAGRAM SHOWS THE 45 PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS THAT TAKE PLACE WHEN EVERYONE IN A CONGREGATION OF TEN SHAKES HANDS WITH EVERYONE ELSE



IN A CONGREGATION OF 20 THERE WILL BE 190 PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS

IN A CONGREGATION OF 50 THERE WILL BE 1225 PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS

IN A CONGREGATION OF 100 THERE WILL BE 4950 PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS

FORMULA THAT CAN BE USED TO IMPRESS PEOPLE AT PARTIES:

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS IS $N \times \left(\frac{N-1}{2}\right)$

WHERE 'N' IS THE NUMBER OF CONGREGANTS

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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

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

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

New Membership Form

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Partner's name_____

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

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Generosity, supporting the parish church, and how we go about it

Generosity is such an important part of life – from generosity of spirit, time and gifts through to how we use the contents of our wallets too. How we approach each of those things can say a lot about us, who we are and what we believe in – including our response to God and his church.

We continue to be very blessed at St Mary and St Eanswythe's that people give so generously of their time, talents and resources to sustain the work we do - if you're already one of them, thank you so very much!

We estimate that it costs us at least £1500 per week to keep things going (and that's not including special projects or building work beyond routine maintenance) so we're hugely grateful for all the support we receive, whatever the amount is.

Might you be able to consider a regular donation (or even a one-off) to St Eanswythe's? If so, it would be a *massive* help if you'd consider using the *Parish Giving Scheme*. It makes the work of collection and budgeting so much easier for us (and the CofE bears the admin cost nationally, meaning more money for the parish!).

If you're tech-minded, there's this QR code



or the website: 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.

We'll be writing to our regular donors in the next few weeks to say thank you *(If you're a regular donor and don't seem to have received anything by mid-November, do please get in touch and help us to thank you and make sure our records are up to date!).*

We also welcome donations of time and skills in the service of God's church, from baking, to polishing, to pastoral care, to welcoming visitors into our amazing building - and a host of other things in between. If you think that's something you might like to be involved with, even occasionally, do please let us get in touch!

Heritage WiFi…

Something St Eanswythe never had to worry about was reliable internet coverage and, 1400 years later, we were left wishing there was an internet equivalent to making water flow uphill. However…we've recently upgraded our WiFi equipment in church (the equipment has a 5-year lifespan, roughly, and also needs to overcome the challenges of thick walls and lots of pillars!) and so far, so good!

We're hugely grateful to Bayle Music, who hold concerts at St Eanswythe's and have supported us in a number of different ways over the years. Given the need for a reliable WiFi signal for both box office and bar, amongst other things, they've very generously donated £500 towards the overall project costs - which has made a big difference to meeting the overall project cost!

If you'd like to contribute something towards the cost, do drop us a line or you can find a donation QR code elsewhere in *Rendezvous*.



FOLKESTONE FILM CLUB

November programme

Thursday mornings from 10.00 - Film starts at 11.00

Free tea, coffee and biscuits served until 10.50

SILVER SCREEN CINEMA

5th November (repeated12th November)

Sunny Dancer (2026) 15

Dir. George Jaques. UK
106 mins

Comedy drama. When 17 year old cancer survivor Ivy is reluctantly sent to summer "chemo camp" she finds unexpected friends in a group of misfits.

12th November (repeated19th November)

Holy Days (2026) 12A

Dir. Nat Boltz. NZ, CA
101 mins

Comedy drama. Three elderly nuns trying to save their convent end up on a road trip across New Zealand with an unhappy young boy.

19th November (repeated 26th November)

Tony (2026) 15

Dir. Matt Johnson. USA, CA
106 mins

Biographical comedy. One summer, a 19 year old Anthony Bourdain stumbles into the chaotic world of a restaurant kitchen, forever changing his life.

26th November (repeated 3rd December)

& Sons (2026) 15

Dir. Pablo Trapero. USA, CA, UK
119 mins

Drama. A once-revered but now reclusive novelist (Bill Nighy) tries to reconnect with his estranged sons, leading him to make an extraordinary claim.

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