

### Deal Foodbank donations: Ash Church

We are proud to be a donation point– the donation bin is through the main glass doors. Donations are collected by Deal Foodbank to distribute to those who come to them in need.

**Ash with Westmarsh Parish Mag.** Available from Co-op and Poparound shops in Ash and St Nicholas Church. To subscribe and have delivery please phone or email the editor Rebecca Smith on 07743 605873 [rebeccasmith.ash@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccasmith.ash@gmail.com)

### Recycling fundraisers for local schools.

Collection boxes in the church porches at Ash for Bread bags.

**YES please:** Any brand of bakery plastic packaging and bread bags/closures

**NO thank you:** Paper bags, wax packets, or combined paper-and-film window bag

### See our leaflet about volunteering with us!

There are so many ways to get involved. Also share your ideas <https://thecanonrybenefice.org.uk/get-involved/join-a-team/>

### For Canonry Benefice giving visit:

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

### Safeguarding and Lone Working:

<https://thecanonrybenefice.org.uk/about-the-canonry-benefice/safeguarding-statement/>

### Confirmation

<https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/confirmations/confirmation-faqs> If you would like to know more about getting confirmed please contact Reverend Caroline [canonryvicar@gmail.com](mailto:canonryvicar@gmail.com)

### Interested in being a lay reader?

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/ministry/reader-ministry/licensed-lay-ministry-reader>

**Together:** Join a faith community that embraces all, advocating for the full inclusion of everyone in our communities, ranging from highlighting racial injustice and disability advocacy to addressing class inequality and campaigning for the full participation of LGBTQIA+ people. Go to [www.together.org.uk](http://www.together.org.uk)

**Canterbury Diocesan Conference - Leading your Church into Growth** 15 & 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026, Seasalter Christian Centre, CT5 4AX. Zoom Follow-Ups – 21 September 2026, 11 January 2027, 12 April 2027, all 2pm-4pm. LyCiG' s focus is numerical and spiritual growth which aligns with our three bold outcomes for 2030: Double the number of children and young disciples, 200 new Christian communities, Every parish, benefice and deanery showing signs of revitalisation. Anyone in the church who wants to get involved and enable growth **please let Caroline know asap** so she can block book tickets- they sell out really fast! It would be good to have representation from all our Benefice Churches.

### Parish Support Conference 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026

Come along and learn more about how churches in the Diocese can run more smoothly. From welcome to buildings to finance. hosted by the Generous Giving team and sponsored by Ecclesiastical.

### 9:45am–3:30pm Lenham Community Hall

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/parishsupport/generosity-giving/upcoming-events.php>

### Benefice Churches open for private prayer

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

If you have anything you would like to pray about, please contact me, or one of our pastoral team at [asnpteam1@gmail.com](mailto:asnpteam1@gmail.com)

### Scan for The Canonry Benefice website



**The Churches within the Canonry Benefice**  
(Ash, Goodnestone, Chillenden, Nonington, Elmstone, Preston, and Stourmouth)

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

### Readings

Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

### Prayer

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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

**THIS SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

Holy Communion, 9am, All Saints, Chillenden  
 Breakfast Church, 9.30am, St Mary's, Nonington  
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash (Sparks)  
 Family Service & comm 10.30am, St Mildred's, Preston

**NEXT SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

Holy Communion, 9am, Holy Cross, Goodnestone  
 Holy Communion, 9am, St Nicholas, Ash  
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash (Sparks)  
 Service of the Word, 10.30am, Elmstone Church

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

The Church is a place where ALL are welcome, we love to see children come along and be part of everything we do. Sparks is our children's group which runs in the side chapel of St Nicholas Church in Ash during the service, with fun, chat, craft & basic teaching about Christian values & Bible stories. The children join the rest of the church family for the end of the service & refreshments. The service is just over an hour starting 10.30 each week during term time. More info [canonryvicar@gmail.com](mailto:canonryvicar@gmail.com)

**We are relaunching Snics!** an after-school club open to all children of primary-school age. 3.30 to 5pm in St Nicholas Church. We need more volunteers from our church to join the parent volunteers from C&K school to welcome children once a month to our 'Messy Church' style gathering. We enjoy tea together, have fun with art & crafts play games and take time for quiet reflection. Let Rev Caroline know if you are interested in helping.

**Women's Breakfast** 3rd Sat of each month 9-10am at The Vicarage in Ash. **Next 21<sup>st</sup> March.** Tea, croissants, fellowship, friendly faces!

**Bacon Buddies:** Men's group: breakfast, chat, chillout in the woods. Last Saturday in the month 9am. Piglet Place, Fleming Road, Staple, CT3 1LG. Contact Dan on 07753743020 **Next 28th March.**

**Mothering Sunday:** Join us for our special services on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March at Goodnestone (9am), Elmstone (10.30am) and Ash (10.30am). Celebrate those who love and care for us. Stay for coffee!

**Reverend Caroline writes:** What a heavy week this has been. So much change, so many decisions made far beyond our control. Wars upon wars, and we find ourselves asking again, will humanity ever learn? We hold in prayer all those in the line of fire across the Middle East - for protection, for safety, and for wisdom for those whose decisions will shape the future of our world. And yet, we are in Lent. A season not only for looking outward, but inward. It is easy to critique the state of the world, harder to examine our own hearts. While we may not influence global powers, the daily choices we make, in our homes, our churches, our communities, matter. We are not powerless in shaping the spirit of the spaces we inhabit. Lent invites us to that deeper work: honest reflection, courageous conversation, and a return to God's transforming love. Our Lent groups offer a safe and thoughtful place to wrestle with the big questions, including those that arise as we watch the news and struggle to understand the suffering we see. As we journey towards Easter, let us commit to change where we can - in ourselves. Let us root ourselves more deeply in God's love for all humanity, and consider how we might share that love in a fractured world, trusting in the promise of new life through Christ. Our **Lent course** runs every Tuesday morning and evening. It's not too late to join. Please see website or email [bpmoore51@gmail.com](mailto:bpmoore51@gmail.com)

**Home Groups/Lent courses** "Lent Wise - Spiritual Essentials for Real Life" written by Paula Gooder.  
**Tuesday Mornings:** 9.30 am until 11 am - **next 24<sup>th</sup> February** 3/3, 10/3, 17/3, 24/3. More info from Revd Barbara via [thecanonrybenefice@gmail.com](mailto:thecanonrybenefice@gmail.com)  
**Tuesday Evenings:** 7.30pm **started on 17<sup>th</sup> February** then 24/2, 3/3, 10/3, 17/3, 24/3. Email [bpmoore51@gmail.com](mailto:bpmoore51@gmail.com) for full details.

There are still places left on our **Prayer Oasis Day** on Friday March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Living Well, discovering ways to pray and experience God in new ways. Perfect way to have a day away from the distractions of life. The day runs from 10am till 3pm and will include lunch and all for £28. Please let Caroline know Or sign up <https://thecanonrybenefice.churchsuite.com/calendar/events/1432> **Tickets available now for a new**

**Easter Passion Play** from Riding Lights. Ash is a stop on their UK tour. Get your ticket from Poparound, Boots or Welcome, only £5!

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

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

**All Saints, Chillenden**

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

**Fundraiser:** "100 club" lottery scheme. Monthly draw. email [100club@chillenden.org.uk](mailto:100club@chillenden.org.uk)

**Holy Cross, Goodnestone**

**The Crucifixion by John Stainer:** (Goodnestone choir) 31<sup>st</sup> March 7-8pm, retiring collection

**Music for Holy Week:** Caritas Chamber Choir. 3<sup>rd</sup> April 7pm, retiring collection.

**Post Office:** in church Mondays 9-11am

**Choir rehearsal** Tuesday eves 7-8pm. For info:

[denyer@doctors.org.uk](mailto:denyer@doctors.org.uk).

**St Mary's Nonington**

**Concert by the Friends:** 2.30pm Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March

**Coffeestop** Baptist Chapel Thursdays 10-12

**Happy Hour:** Monthly (3<sup>rd</sup> Fri) 6.30pm

**Compline:** Monthly Zoom, contact churchwarden

**Seekers:** Please check with churchwarden

**St Nicholas' Church, Ash**

**Ash Village Warm Space:** A Warm FREE space to all in our community each **Thursday 11am- 2pm**. There will be a friendly welcome, free tea/coffee and a mug of hot homemade soup & a roll. **PC Bowler 12<sup>th</sup> March**

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

**22<sup>nd</sup> March Visiting Choir:** join in with the Cheerful Voice choir, rehearsal 2pm, Evensong 5pm, Refreshments!

**Christian Aid Coffee Morning:** Ash Village Hall, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 10-12. Bacon baps, drinks, cakes, raffle, stalls, Christian Aid info. **Can you help?** Please leave donations for the raffle or bric-a-brac in the church porch (labelled so we know it's for the coffee morning) Cake/savoury donations please take to village hall on 4<sup>th</sup> April. Helping on the day please text Hilary on 07510 358709.