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10th–17th
Jan 2010

ST PETER & ST PAUL, ST ANDREW'S, ST PHILIP'S &
ST SAVIOUR'S

Tonbridge Parish News

Dear Friends,

The grace industry

As the new year and new decade turns, there has been some apposite and amusing comments in the press about the so called Happy industry. What makes you happy? How to be successful and positive? Newsagents stands in railway stations abound in them and whilst not spoiling Anglo-American relationships it is apparent even to the most casual observer that most of the books come from the other-side of the pond. I, like you, will have your own opinions on this trend however the banner headline - of The happy industry is evocative to reflect upon. Not a bad description, I reflect, on the work of the Church - reworded of course (!) "The grace industry" The new year will see many challenges some of which might not have so-called successful outcomes or be solvable by a positive attitude. Grace however, according to our time honoured and global Christian tradition, does abound. Once God gives, He gives it seems even more. It is always fascinating to me that following on from the feast of Christmas the Church in its wisdom gives us another feast season "Epiphany" -spreading of the light of Christ to the Gentiles. A feast is followed by another feast not a fast!

May we know God's grace this coming year as we:

Increasingly work together as four churches and welcome new initiatives.

Gather for prayer at our Prayer & Praise meetings on Monday 11th Jan St Peter & St Paul 8pm and Wednesday 21st April St Peter & St Paul 8pm.

Meet our financial challenges.

Prepare ourselves for 'Living Well in our Community'.

Grace be with you (see 2 Peter 3:18)

Mark Brown

Thank you....

To all who assisted in clearing up our buildings after our Christmas festivities.

To the team who successfully installed a new AV system at St. Philips.
To the admin team for producing a bookmark calendar (PLEASE - use it!!) and new term cards (PLEASE take one and note especially the evening services - we would not want you to miss out even if you can only come occasionally.

To those who visit and care for our members who are ill or house-bound during the recent cold spell.

Mark Brown

Holy Communion Services with the Parish of St Peter & St Paul Tonbridge...

Following recent advice from the Diocese we are pleased to advise you that we are now able to give 'bread & wine' in the normal way during our Holy Communion Services across the Parish. We will make the necessary changes as soon as possible, but if you have any concerns please contact a member of your Leadership.

Your help is needed...

The holiday club team have requested your help by saving your teabag boxes (size 80). Collection boxes will be in the church in the New Year, so please start collecting now. Thank you very much for your help.

Liz Wood

Have your Christmas visits to Church left you wondering about the Christian Faith?

After 'From Carols to Curried Turkey' there's '**Discovering Christianity**'. This is a series of three Wednesday evenings with Revs Peter Goodridge & Gary Townsend looking at some basics of the Christian Faith. There are some topics we'd like to look at, but the evenings will be flexible enough for you to ask your questions. This little course is ideal for all enquirers & new comers.
20:00 – 21:30, 27th January, 3rd & 10th of February.

14, Salisbury Road, Tonbridge.
No charge. Refreshments provided.
Interested? Call Gary on 357205 or Peter on 355200.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for primary schools across Tonbridge as they receive invitations to our summer event 'Sing Out Loud!'

Pray that we will get a bigger response than last year & that we can build on what we have started.

Mon 11th Jan ~ Pray for a really good attendance for our Parish prayer meeting.

Tues 12th Jan ~ Pray for the Christian leaders of all Churches in Tonbridge as they meet today.

Please join us for Staff Prayers starting at 9.30am in the choir stalls at St Peter & St Paul.

Wed 13th Jan ~ Pray for the life of our deanery as its clergy meet over lunch today.

Thurs 14th Jan ~ Pray for our outreach event '*From Carols to Curried Turkey*' which is to be held this evening..

Mon 18th Jan ~ Our PCC meets this evening.

Fri 29th Jan ~ Please pray for Gary as he speaks at the Ruston Society this evening.

Two pianos will shortly become available at St Peter & St Paul for anyone who wants one or both! The responsibility for moving the piano(s) would rest with the person who takes them. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

SERVICE ROTA 10th & 17th Jan 2010

*Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your
Son: may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved
children; through Jesus Christ our
Saviour.*

St Peter & St Paul

10am Morning Service

'Unable to forgive'

Lead: David Balcombe

Preach: Revd Mark Brown

6.30pm Holy Communion

*'Daily Discipleship ~ A path worth
following'*

Lead: Abi Dunn

Preach: Revd Mark Brown

St Andrew's

10am Holy Communion

'Unable to forgive'

Lead & Preach: Revd Gary Townsend

St Philip's

10.30am Morning Service

'Unable to forgive'

Lead: Revd Peter Goodridge

Preach: Jacky Wright

St Saviour's

8am Holy Communion

Lead & Preach: Revd Gary Townsend

10am Morning Service

'Unable to forgive'

Lead: Carrie Walshaw

Preach: Revd Stephen Baker

Eternal Lord,

*our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation to your
glory, hidden through past ages and
made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

St Peter & St Paul

8am Holy Communion

Lead & Preach: Revd Mark Brown

10am Morning Service

'Discovering God for yourself'

Lead: Revd Peter Goodridge

Preach: Abi Dunn

6.30pm Evening Service

'Daily Discipleship'

Lead: Revd Mark Brown

Preach: Revd Peter Goodridge

St Andrew's

10am Morning Service

'Discovering God for yourself'

Lead: Robin Dunn

Preach: Brian Buck

St Philip's

10.30am Holy Communion

'Discovering God for yourself'

Lead: Tom Robertson

Preach: Revd Mark Brown

St Saviour's

10am All Age Service

'Discovering God for yourself'

Lead: Helen Longley

Preach: Revd Gary Townsend

'The Cycle of Lust in the Film,
Beowulf.'

All men from across our churches are invited to this evening of clips from the film & discussion on the subject of 'lust' at the St Philip's Men's Forum on the **8th February** at 8pm to be held at St Philip's Church. Revd Gary Townsend will be leading the evening.

With grateful thanks...

Veronica Jackson from the Poppy Appeal has written to pass on her grateful thanks to everyone in the Parish who helped collect £241.28 towards their annual collection.

Without your help they would be unable to continue their vital welfare and benevolent work.

It is with great sadness that we have to inform you of the death of our dear sister **Brenda Hook** who passed away on 22nd December. Her Thanksgiving Service will be held at St Peter & St Paul on Saturday **23rd January** at 2pm. Brenda's daughter Wendy and family would like to invite you to join them for this very special service to celebrate her life, and afterwards for refreshments to be served in the lower lounge.

This service follows her **private** funeral service which will be held on Tuesday 19th January.

Christmas Collection update...

We thank God for people's generosity in giving £2116.74 to our chosen Christmas charities this last year.

I am very grateful to all who help assist in the leading and preaching at our public acts of worship. Our commitment is to meet twice every year to reflect on good practice and encourage each other. Our next gathering on Saturday **30th January** 9.30am for refreshments for a prompt start at 10am, to be held at St Peter & St Paul and led by James & Jo Levasier is on "All age worship". We wanted to make this event open to all and it might be of special interest to the following: Those leading our children's and young people's work, those assisting in other ways on Sundays, in fact if the subject inspires you - you are most welcome. If you would like to attend in addition to the team already invited **please let me know;**

jane@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk or tel. 01732 770962 x25.

Mark Brown

From Carols to Curried Turkey!



“Do you feel like a partridge
stuck up a pear tree?”

On Thursday 14th January, 7.30pm

@ St Peter & St Paul, Tonbridge,

YOU & your guest(s)

are invited to a meal

and a chance to relax & reflect with
others.

RSVP by tomorrow, 11th Jan 2010,

with dietary reqs & contact details

to jane@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

or 01732 770962 x25.

As we start a new school term we thought it may be useful to give you details of some of the children's groups that meet within our Parish.

Tots & Co

Tots & Co is a toddler group that meets **every Wednesday** (term time) from 1.15 - 2.45pm at St Philip's Church, Salisbury Road. If you would like more details please telephone Liz Wood on tel. 01732 770955.

Let the Children Sing

This is a special service held on the **first Wednesday** of every month at St Saviour's Church starting at 10am. This is open to all children, their carers and anybody else who wishes to attend of any age, with refreshments served after the service. For more details please contact Helen tel. 352580.

Stepping Stones

Pre-school children and their parents or carers are very welcome and they meet **every Thursday** during term time at St Peter & St Paul from 10am. For more details contact Sara Thomson tel. 01732 356430.

Musical Bumps

Music & Movement for babies & toddlers and their parents or carers. Held at St Peter & St Paul every **Monday & Thursday** morning from 9.30am. For full details contact the Church Office tel. 01732 770962 x20.

GYM & SOS

GYM (God You & Me) and SOS are our Parish Church based Sunday school & youth groups along with REFRESH for the older members. For more details about the groups and their activities please contact Revd Gary Townsend, or Jane Higgs at the Coach House Office.

Kids Club & Building Blocks

Crèche

These are St Philip's based children's Sunday groups, that meet at St Philip's Church. For more details of the groups and their activities please contact the St Philip's Church Office tel. 352416.

Baby Space (formally NetMums)

This is a time for mum's and dad's to meet together and chat over a cup of tea or coffee & biscuits, while their children play. This is held every **Monday** from 12.30pm-3pm at St Peter & St Paul lower lounge. A donation of £1 is requested to cover cost of refreshments. Offers to help always welcome. Please contact Jenny for more details. tel. 352703.

Teddy Bear Club

The Teddy Bear Club is a Mum/Dad and Toddler group that meets in the upper lounge of St Peter & St Paul Church **every Tuesday** (term time) from 9.30am.

New members are always welcome. Tel. 01732 770962 x25.