

Sundays 7-28

August 2016

## Dear Friends

The month of August can be different from the rest of the year. Perhaps it is holiday time, whether going away or relaxing at home. Maybe the shape of life changes as children are not at school or summer activities come into view. Or you may be doing exactly what you normally do, but your colleagues or friends are not around.

If you find some space in the month can I encourage you to use it to reflect on God's work in the world and in your life? Here are a few suggestions.

- Mark Brown recently suggested we read Mark's Gospel at a single sitting. Why not try? You could follow up by reading it more slowly, say a chapter a day, and thinking about what it means for your life. Rowan Williams' little book, *Meeting God in Mark*, would help you to go deeper.
- We have thought about prayer in our morning services this term. Why not commit to regularly praying the Lord's Prayer – and as you do being open to the Holy Spirit leading you on in prayer from that starting point? Or using a different psalm each day in your prayers?
- Reading a Christian book can energise our faith in new areas. Why not visit the bookshop and pick something out? If you want to find out more about the bible, try the "For Everyone" series by Tom Wright (New Testament) and John Goldingay (Old Testament).

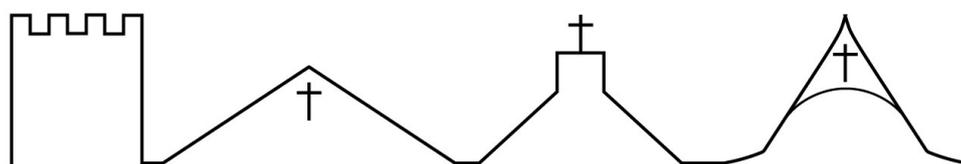
Of course, there are many other ways we can reflect on God. This summer let's set aside some space to set our hearts and minds on him.

Can I wish you a restful and blessed summer.

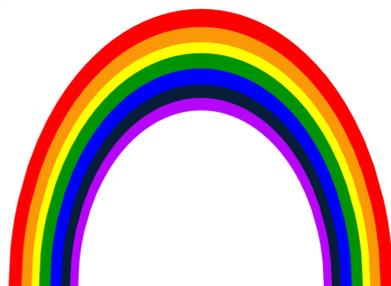


*Taizé*

Evening service 28th August will include Taizé music and prayer—come and enjoy—6.30pm St Peter & St Paul



St Peter & St Paul • St Philip • St Andrew • St Saviour



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

**Tonbridge Parish News**

## Diary

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Sat 3 Sept	Balcombe Family Service, 7pm St Peter & St Paul
Wed 7 Sept	Dawn prayer, 6am St Philip p.6
10-11 Sept	Heritage weekend and craft exhibition, p.8
Sat 24 Sept	Women's Breakfast, Rose and Crown, p 3
Sat 15th Oct	Quiz Night 7.30pm St Philip
Mon 17 Oct	Everyday, Everywhere, Everyone— see below
Fri 11th Nov	The Outbreak of War 1939: Dr John Ray's annual talk on an

## For your Diaries

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### **Everyday, Everywhere, Everyone Discipleship in the real world**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 7:30 for 8:00pm St Peter & St Paul**

The launch of our exciting new whole Parish initiative  
for the Autumn and Spring terms.

Following requests at our APCM, Mark and the staff team will share plans and  
resources to help you to:

- ◇ live for Christ and follow him
- ◇ be a blessing to those around you
- ◇ equip you for sharing Christ in everyday life, everywhere

*It will not involve a series of meetings— and is for everybody!*

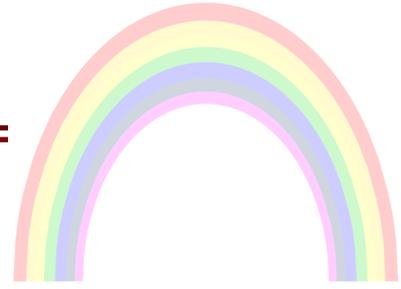
Saturday 3rd September: Balcombe Family Concert  
7pm at St Peter & St Paul

Short address by Rev'd Mark Brown

Retiring collection in aid of Kondoa Kindergarten

Tickets available in churches—please take one and add your name(s) or book via

## Notices



### **Families! Visitors!**

**Join us on Sundays in August**

**The story of Noah**

**10am St Peter & St Paul**

**The miracles of Jesus**

**4pm St Philip**

**Including tea!**

Try a new service in August! A warm welcome awaits you in all our churches—and tea will be served at the St Philip's August 4pm services.

All August services on p.7

**Cakes Welcome** for the St Philip's church August teatime services. Please bring on the Friday before (ring 352416) or before 4pm on the day.

Thank you!

**Stepping Stones starts on Thurs 8th September at 10am**

We meet in the Upper Lounge and this term are looking at different aspects of Christian Disciplines. Our overall aim is to encourage one another to grow in our Christian faith, at whatever point we are in our journey.

Creche available for pre-school children

More information from Patricia King 366179 or Morwenna Fernandez 366761

**WOULD A HOSPITAL VISIT BE APPRECIATED?**

Members of our Parish who are volunteers on the Tunbridge Wells Hospital Chaplaincy team include Sandy

Chapman, Terry Collins, Louisa Medhurst, Sally Musson, Roxanne Robins and Sandra Wakefield. We are allocated a ward to visit and we generally go over at set times during the week. When we are over there we would be very willing to visit parishioners who might appreciate a visit. But we need to know they are there! Please contact any of us or let Sally know ([mussionsally@btinternet.com](mailto:mussionsally@btinternet.com) 01732 838411). Also do let us know if there is someone who would like a visit from a member of the clergy team.

Many thanks and God bless. SALLY

**Autumn Women's Breakfast**

**Saturday 24 September 9-10.30am**

**Rose and Crown**

Alyson Bleakley, mother of 3, teacher and parish member, speaks on *HOPE: What are you looking forward to?*

Tickets £7.50 include buffet breakfast from Sara Thomson 356430

## For Prayer

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Sue Power and family

Bertha Hughes, Kevin Boughton, Margaret Tasker,  
Carl, Sue King, Lawrie & Margaret Pope



Please keep Carol and Mark Miller, with family and friends, in your prayers following their recent loss. Keith passed away at Hospice in the Weald on 29th July and his Funeral service takes place on Wednesday 10th August, 11.30am at St Peter & St Paul. All are welcome.

Tom Williamson passed away on 1st August. Please keep his family, especially Hannah, David and Karen in your prayers.

## For Prayer— what's on our Ministers' agendas:

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Anthony: Coldharbour Meadows, 27-29th August

Sally:

7th Leading and preaching at Chiddingstone

9th Conducting Jeanne Dodson's funeral

10th Conducting Keith Miller's funeral

16th Meeting with Shipbourne/Plaxtol Churchwarden

18th Monthly service in Chestnut Lodge

4 Sept Leading and preaching at Chiddingstone

Simon

19th - 24th: Soul Survivor. Please pray for the safety and success of our trip. Pray for good weather and that we would all be richly encouraged in the faith.

Andy:

8th-12th Speaking at Carroty Wood's Holiday Club

19th-24th Taking youth to Soul Survivor

27th-28th Young people's work at Coldharbour camp

### **RIDE & STRIDE for churches Saturday 10th September**

Walk, run or cycle between Kent churches and raise money for Friends of Kent Churches and our own church. Sponsor form from Simon Davis 01732 350389

[Www.friendsokentchurches.co.uk](http://www.friendsokentchurches.co.uk)

## **Important dates for the Autumn**

### **Inspiring speakers for all of us to enjoy Events to bring friends and family**

Sat 3 September            Balcombe Concert  
Speaker Mark Brown

Sat 24 September        Women's Breakfast  
Speaker Alyson Bleakley

Mon 17 October            Every day, Everywhere, Everyone  
Speaker Mark Brown

Sun 3 November            Time to Remember  
Speaker Sally Musson

Sat 19 November        Worth Abbey Awayday for all parish members  
Speaker Martin Beaumont

Sat 19 November        Orpheus Concert for Hospice in the Weald  
Speaker Mark Brown

Sat 26 November        Coffee for Kondoia  
Speaker Pam Tanner/Hilary Ruxton

Further details on the website [www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)  
and in forthcoming news sheets.

**PRAYER AT DAWN** Start the day with the Lord! Join Andy Kirkpatrick, Sally Musson and Les Naylor to pray in the Caleb Room at St Philip's Church between 6.00-6.30am on Wednesdays starting on Wednesday 7 September. All very welcome for all or part.

## From the Treasurer

### Summer 2016 - Half Year Finance update

*To all in the Parish of St Peter and St Paul, St Saviours, St Philips and St Andrews*

I felt it was appropriate in light of the recent communications from the Diocese, Brexit, as well as all the other economic challenges we are faced with, to provide you with an update as to how we as a Parish are currently placed financially.

A fact which is becoming more and more important to stress is that The Parish, and in fact the Church as a whole, is predominantly funded from giving and donations. For our Parish, this makes up approximately 75% of our annual income. The remainder is generated through fees for various lettings, weddings and funerals, fundraising activities such as the magazine and the coffee bar and a contribution from the Diocese for clergy living costs.

This income funds not only the work of our Parish but also the Diocese, through our annual contribution, and as such the Church as a whole. Our total income for the 6 months to June was £194k compared to a budgeted £185k and expenditure was on budget at £184k, resulting in a small surplus of just under £10k for the 6 months to date. We expect to maintain a small surplus to budget for the remainder of the financial year, bar any unforeseen expenditure or loss of income.

Given the challenges faced by the Diocese, we have been asked to consider increasing our contribution. We must however also prepare for the possibility that the Diocese, in their drive to cut costs and balance their budget, may no longer be able to grant the contribution to clergy living that we currently receive (£8k for the year to June).

Parish expenditure is constantly scrutinized and reviewed and we follow up on every opportunity to reduce costs. I will continue to do so in light of the current communications, in return I want to ask every one of our Parishioners to consider, where possible, an increase in giving to the General Fund in support of our Parish, our Diocese and our Church as a whole.

For information on how to give, please pick up one of our giving leaflets, see the website or contact Yolanda, myself or one of the church wardens and we will ensure you receive the necessary information.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and your continued support. God bless  
Erna Wessels-Ridder

**London Women's Convention** – Sat  
15th October 9.30am or 3.15pm

Emmanuel Centre Westminster – Last year  
was a sell out. So book early!

Theme 'Authentic- Inside & Out' Linda

Allcock will be teaching from The Sermon  
on the Mount.

Cost £24 plus train fare

Sara Thomson is happy to take bookings  
and answer queries

## Services 7 August—4 September

Each Sunday in August	8am Holy Communion	St Saviour 14th & 28th;	
		St Peter & St Paul 7th & 21st	
	9am Holy Communion (7th only)	St Philip	
	10am All Age Service	St Peter & St Paul	Noah
	10am Morning Service (Holy Communion 14th)	St Andrew	Noah
	10am Holy Communion 7th; Morning Service 14th; All-Age 21st; Morning Service 28th	St Saviour	Noah
	4pm Family Tea Service	St Philip	Miracles of Jesus
	6.30pm Evening Service (Holy Communion on 14th)	St Peter & St Paul	Philippians, Jesus and Lazarus
Wednesdays 10, 17, 24, 31 August	10am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul	
Sunday 4 Sept	8am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul	
	9am Holy Communion	St Philip	
	10am Morning Service	St Peter & St Paul	The Jesus People Met
	10am Morning Service	St Andrew	The Jesus People Met
	10am Holy Communion	St Saviour	The Jesus People Met
	10.30am Morning Service	St Philip	The Jesus People Met
	6.30pm Evening Service	St Peter & St Paul	The Questions People Ask

## Perspectives

Help is needed to administer, or share the administration, of the quarterly delivery of the magazines to the wider parish. Magazines are taken door to door by volunteers to a different quarter of the parish each three months, aiming to reach every home in the parish during a year. Support (possibly a job share), a job description, and a working system for this valued outreach are in place.

Please contact Jane Mata  
jane@amatations.co.uk 01732 357186

*The September issue will be available for area collectors on Saturday 3rd September at ST PETER AND ST PAUL from 9.30—11.30am Thank you very*

*much. JM*

## Craft Exhibition & Heritage Weekend September 10th & 11th

10-6 & 11-4

### St Peter & St Paul open for tours, crafts, cakes and refreshments

If you have any examples of craft that you do, can we display it?

Any offers of help on church open day would be greatly appreciated.

Yvonne Burgess 01732 350651.

### Contacts:

**Parish Office: 01732 770962x 24**

## Collects: Sundays 7,14,21, 28 August: Trinity 11,12,13 and 14

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O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation

of 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.

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,