

ST MARY'S, GREAT CHART & ST FRANCIS, SOUTH ASHFORD



"A living, loving church without walls"

Sundays 2nd and 9th March 2025

We welcome everyone to our service here at St Mary's, Great Chart. Please stay for refreshments and a chat after the service, and do take this notice sheet home with you to refer to forthcoming events.

2nd March 2025 - 1st Sunday before Lent

10am Holy Communion

The Collect:

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings:

The first reading is from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, Ch. 3, verse 12, to Ch. 4, verse 2. It can be found on pages 192-193 in the New Testament.

The Gospel reading is from Luke, Ch. 9, verses 28-36, and can be found on page 74 in the New Testament.

5th March 2025 - Ash Wednesday

7pm Ash Wednesday Service

Join us for a shortened Holy Communion Service with the Imposition of Ash offered.

Sunday 9th March 2025 - Lent

10am Informal Worship

Tim Parker will be our speaker with the theme of 'Broken Vessels repaired by our Lord and Saviour'.

Our service on Sunday 16th March will be Holy Communion for the Second Sunday in Lent, here at St Mary's Great Chart at the usual time of 10.00am.

Points for your prayers:

We pray for all in our parish who are unwell; for all those in hospital and all those who are in long-term care. We ask that you bring healing and relief to those who are suffering, and your love and compassion to all those involved in their care.

Please remember Hannah, Matt and the girls as they prepare for their move to Norwich later this year. Hannah's ordination takes place on Sunday 29th June at 10.30am in Norwich Cathedral.

IMPORTANT! Electoral Roll Renewal!

This year the Electoral Roll for all parishes has to be renewed. The old roll will be scrapped, and EVERYBODY needs to sign a new Electoral Roll form. Please pick up a form at the back of the church, fill it in, sign it, and return it to Jean Armoury. You need to be on the Electoral Roll to be able to vote at the Annual Parochial Meeting.

What's happening, and when...



The mid-week communion at St Francis takes place on Tuesdays 4^{th} and 18th March at 12 noon; all welcome.



Lent Home Group starting 5th March every Wednesday 2.30pm to 4pm at St. Francis - everyone welcome!

Our Lent Course will be 'Hope in Hard Places', a course produced by Embrace. 'Journey with us this Lent as we look

at stories of steadfast faith, hope and trust found in the Bible and reflect on what God's transformational love can mean for our world today. Find encouragement and strength in stories of hope that span over 3000 years of history - showing us that God remains with us at all times'.



The LLT (Local Leadership Team) meets on 10th March at 12.30pm at St. Francis' Church.



The Bereavement Group meets at 2.00pm at St Francis' Church on Monday 17th March.



Many thanks to all who support our regular coffee mornings. The next one will be held at Gill and Michael's, Westgables, in Singleton Road (TN23 3BA) on Saturday 29th March, with plants and produce on sale. Do come to support this.

What's coming up...

Sunday 27th April, 12.30 for 1pm: Lunch at the London Beach Hotel in Tenterden, £30 per person for a 2-course lunch and coffee/tea. Sign up on the sheet at the back of the church. If you do not have transport, a lift can be arranged. The hotel will refund the cost of the food to the Janus Project so this will raise valuable funds.

Sunday 8th June at 10am - Pentecost Service at St. Mary's Great Chart for the whole of Ashford Parish. Bishop Rose will come to dedicate and celebrate our new building works.

And finally...



The closing date for copy for the next noticesheet is Thursday 13th March at noon, and the newsheet will again cover two weeks.

Please email <u>petra.mitchinson@doctors.org.uk</u> or telephone 01233 528 965 to leave a message for anything that you would like included - thank you.

Composting Toilet at St Mary's Great Chart:

Our composting toilet is intended for light use. Please ensure that after use the toilet lid is closed and the cubicle light turned off - do not adjust the heat settings! Please follow these simple instructions for the toilet to function properly - thank you.

A message from the LLT:

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, both to protect children and vulnerable adults. The Parish Safeguarding Officer is Lis Webb (<u>lis.webb@ashfordchurches.co.uk</u>). The Local Area Safeguarding Officer is Janet Sullivan (for St Mary's Great Chart). If you have any concerns, please talk with Janet or a member of the clergy.