

Upcoming dates for your diary (*details below*)

Youth Group picnic on the Green	Wed 22 nd July	5-6.30pm
Church Leaders Tea at the Rectory	Sun 26 th July	3.30pm
All Ages August Cafe in St. Mary's	Each Weds in Aug	10am-noon
Confirmation Service in Canterbury Cathedral	Sat 7 th Nov	11am

Safety in the churchyard

Please could we remind **parents to keep a close eye on their children** when they leave the church. There was an incident recently when a child left the church excitedly as a car was driving slowly and carefully to the church door - if the driver had not been so careful the car could have hit the child.

Please could **all car drivers** who need to drive up to the church **be extra cautious** and ensure that they drive very slowly. Thank you. **Vicar & churchwardens**

Church Leaders Tea at the Rectory Sunday 26th July 3.30pm

Rev Andrew and Jo would like to invite all those in our church who lead a team or activity to afternoon tea. A chance to catch up over a cup of tea and cake and share ideas on how things are going in our church. If you lead a team/activity but are not able to come, then please do invite another member of your team to come to the tea.

Youth Group - Pizza on the Green Wed 22nd July 5-6.30pm

Our young people (year 5 and up) and their friends are invited to 'Pizza on the Green' this Wednesday. There will be badminton, frisbee, music and lots of pizza. Please let Rev Andrew know if you are coming.

Safeguarding Training

Please could you help raise awareness of Safeguarding within our church by completing the online Basic Awareness (and Foundation) trainings.

Anyone who has a role in the church (choir or band member, welcome team member, sacristan, sound desk, chalice bearer, intercessor, bible reader, regular refreshments team member....) is asked to do one, or both, of these short trainings. Please use the first QR or follow <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/> to set up your safeguarding training account so that you can access the training.



For more information on the training required for each role within our church please see the Safeguarding notice board at the back of church or via the second QR.

*If you would like help or further advice on this then please contact a member of PCC or your Team Leader. Thank you very much, **Rev Andrew**.*



Summer Sundays - Faith into Action

This year for our Summer Sundays in August we are inviting people to speak to us about examples of 'Faith into Action'. On 9th August, Domenica Pecoraro from Canterbury Diocese will tell us more about the Afghan Welcome Project. On 16th August friends from Wye Church are coming to share about the Wye and Bridge India Trust supporting children in India. Look out for more details on posters and Facebook.

All Ages August Cafe in St. Mary's, Weds 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th August

10.00 a.m. to midday. Board games & crafts. Chat and relax with refreshments and light snacks.
See Cathy Arnold (01227 731960) for further details.

Afghan Welcome Project: We now have 5 team members, so we just need one more, but we are happy to have more than this. We are each undergoing the admin that is necessary to be part of the scheme: two references, DBS check, and several useful training courses. We have a 5 bedroomed house that will become available in July (near St. Dunstons) and a very friendly landlord. An Afghan family has been short listed for us, but nothing will be finalised until all the team have completed the necessary admin. So if anyone would like to join our dynamic friendly team, you are most welcome. Talk to Colin, Cathy, Maggie or David if you would like to know more. **David Chadwick**

Confirmation Service Saturday - 7th November 2026, at 11am in Canterbury Cathedral.

Please contact Rev Andrew if you are interested in being confirmed (or baptised and confirmed) in November, or would like to know more about this special service when you make your baptism promises your own and become a full 'communicant' member of the church.

Chartham Village Hall Trustee

Could you help St Mary's support our Village Hall by being our nominated as a trustee on the Hall Committee? There is more information about this role on the noticeboard at the back of church.

Please contact Rev Andrew or a member of PCC if you feel you could help in this way.

The Hall Committee are organising an open Village Hall Meeting on Monday 27th July, to provide an opportunity for residents of Chartham to share their ideas for the Hall.

Wednesday Midday Bible Study group cancelled this week

Please note that the Bible Study on July 29th has unfortunately had to be cancelled. The Study group will begin again in the autumn. If you are interested in joining this group when it restarts please see Gerry or John for more details.

Collects and readings

Sun 19th July: Morning service

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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.

Romans 8:12-25, Matt 13:24-30, 36-43

Sun 26th July: Family Communion

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws
and the works of your commandments;
that, through your most mighty protection,
both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Romans 8:26-39, Matt 13:31-33, 44-42

