

"A living, loving church without walls"

Notices for August 2024

As this is a fairly quiet time of the year, this noticesheet will cover the whole of August, and includes looking forward into the Autumn with things that will be happening then; please see below...

Our pattern of worship during August is as follows:

Sunday 4th Aug: Holy Communion

Sunday 11th Aug: Informal Worship

Sunday 18th Aug: Holy Communion

Sunday 25th Aug: Morning Worship

Please do stay for refreshments and a chat after each service, and do take a copy of this notice sheet home to refer to forthcoming events.



Points for your prayers:

- We pray for peace in Ukraine and the other places of conflict in our world.
- We pray for all those in our world who are threatened with starvation and who have nowhere to call home.
- We pray for all in our parish who are unwell, and ask that you bring healing and relief to those who are suffering.
- We give thanks for all those who have given up their time to organise and run MakeLunch during August.
- We give thanks for all those who lead our worship week by week, and for their preaching and ministry to all of us.



We could really do with increasing the number of Welcomers who give out the hymn books, service sheets and notice sheets each week- if you would like

to be on the rota for this, please speak to Sue Varnals- we'd be most grateful!



Your help is also much needed to support our provision of hot meals to those in need. Financial support to "fill the gap" is asked for, as there is a significant shortfall this summer in the food that is generously provided by Tesco etc. You can do this in a number of ways:

- Give your unused Clubcard vouchers to Cathie.
- Donate to MakeLunch via Ashford Town Parish (Barclays Bank, sort code 20-02-62, a/c no. 30686611, ref. MakeLunch), or as a cheque made out to Ashford Town PCC, ref MakeLunch on the back of the cheque.
- As cash in an envelope marked "MakeLunch" directly to Cathie. Any donation, large or small, will be gratefully received.
- We could also do with additional volunteers to help with running Make Lunch during the school holidays- the sessions will be running every Tuesday and Friday throughout August, beginning this Tuesday, 6th August. You don't have to commit to every session, but any help that you can offer will be much appreciated- please speak to Cathie.



N.B. The next Midweek Communion at St Francis will be on Tuesday, 3rd September.



The Bereavement Support Group meets on 19th August in St Francis Church Hall from 2.00pm to 3.30pm- do come and meet people over a cup of tea or coffee.

Frankie's -this continues through August, each Wednesday between 2.00pm and 4.00pm, with hot and cold drinks, cake and biscuits, in St Francis' Church Hall. ***(The Bible Study Group will be taking a break and resuming in September.)***



Choir practices during August are as follows- Fri 9th and Fri 16th in St Mary's Great Chart at the usual time of 7.00pm, where we will be looking at possible music to include in our Carol Service, supplemented with other singers from across the Ashford Parish.

Coming up in the Autumn:



“Ride and Stride” will be taking place to raise funds for Friends of Kent Churches on September 14th. Please sponsor Gill, Michael, Rachel or Monica. (Each church receives 50% of the sponsorship money back, and FoKC have also been very generous with grants to us for a variety of projects.)



Our Harvest Festival will be taking place on Sunday 29th September, with a Harvest Supper the evening before on Sat 28th Sept- listen out for further details...



A concert by the Ashford Invicta Singers will be taking place in St Francis' Church on October 26th, to raise funds for the next stage of our church restoration.



The annual Service of Light, to remember those who have died, will be taking place at 2.00pm on Advent Sunday, 1st December.

Our annual Festive Christmas Evening will be taking place at Godinton House on Tuesday 10th December - more details to follow nearer the time.



Our service of Candlelit Carols at Great Chart will be taking place on the evening of Sunday 15th December.

Food for thought...



“If Christian worship had revolved around feet-washing instead of bread-sharing, it is both intriguing and depressing that now we would be involved in theological disputes about

whether the feet should be sprinkled or totally immersed, whether the right or left feet should come first, who was authorised to wash feet, whether

women's feet could be washed, and, even more serious whether women could wash feet!" Ken Loach, priest and theologian, writing in the mid-1990's



Contributions to this noticesheet from anyone in our congregation are welcome; please email me, Tony Shaw, at tony.shaw53@hotmail.co.uk, or telephone 01233 634355 to leave a message - thank you.

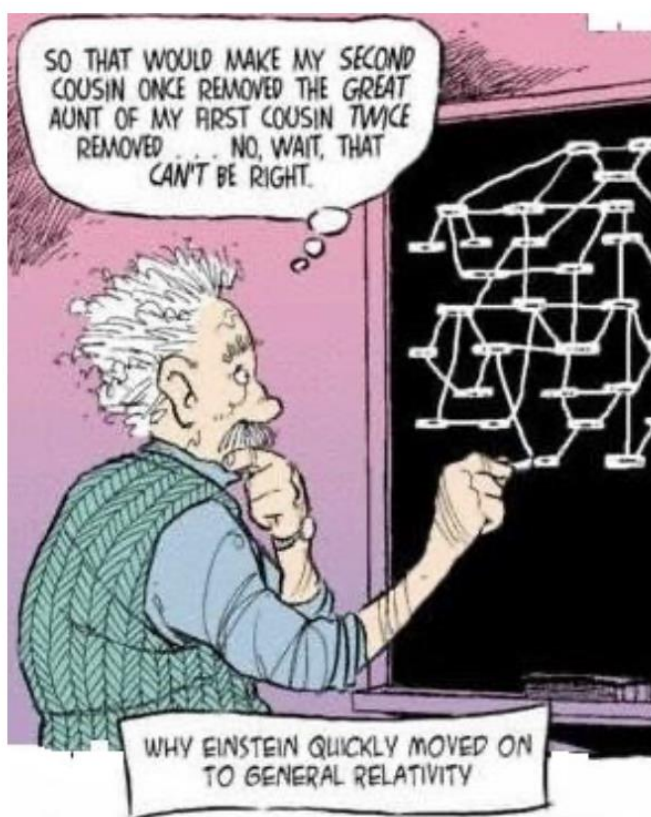
N.B. The closing date for copy for the next noticesheet is not until Thursday 29th August at noon - thank you.

And finally...

"ehh, good enough"



- Mediocrates



A message from the LLT:

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