

FROM NICHOLAS

First, I would like to thank all those who contributed to our Holy Week Worship, in so many ways.

Whilst we all see those 'up front', servers, musicians, singers, readers, leaders and preachers there are many more in the background, ensuring that that services are recorded and edited, preparing the projected liturgy etc. Thank you to all.



You may recall that on Palm Sunday, Sue Vallente Kerr tested our knowledge of road signs and came up with one that is only rarely seen – migratory toads. So, it was a source of amusement that whilst we were on our post-Easter walking holiday in the Peak District we encountered this one at Bowden Bridge, Hayfield.

Bowden Bridge also has historical significance as the starting place of the mass trespass onto Kinder Scout, 24 April 1932. This act of civil disobedience was arguably one of the most successful in British history. It was a precursor to the National Parks legislation in 1948 and a *Code of Courtesy for the Countryside* which was the forerunner of the *Countryside Code*.

Finally, I returned to learn that through some generous additional donations, the final total for the fundraising efforts for Ukraine is close to £2,500. Thank you once again for everyone's work and generosity towards this. It is a source of immense sadness that this act of evil and consequent need continues.

BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

HM The Queen has approved the nomination of the Rt Rev Jonathan Gibbs as the next Bishop of Rochester. Bishop Jonathan is currently the Bishop of Huddersfield in the Diocese of Leeds. He also holds the national portfolio of Lead Bishop for Safeguarding, a role he will bring with him into his post as Bishop of Rochester. He will be installed as Bishop of Rochester in September 2022.

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC AND ZIPWIRE

Calling all brave teddy bears!

Is your bear brave enough to face the challenge of a zip wire from All Saints Tower?

If so, bring your bear (other animals are allowed!) and join in a Teddy Bears' Picnic on Sunday 8 May 12noon-2.30pm at All Saints Church, Frindsbury. Your bear will receive a certificate. £2.00 a go - donations towards our tower repairs. Bring your picnic - cakes/ice creams available.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR COFFEE!



PILGRIMS PANTRY Pilgrims Pantry meets every Tuesday morning from 10.30am in the Parish Hall. Tea, coffee and a menu of snacks and light lunches available.

UPCHAT CAFÉ UpChat Café meets on Fridays 10am, at St Philip & St James (*nb not Friday 6 May*)

ZOOMOFFEE Coffee by Zoom takes place on Wednesday mornings from 10.30am. Message the Parish Office for details of how to join in.

LITTLE LIGHTS

All Saints Baby and Toddlers has recommenced as 'Little Lights' on Tuesday afternoons, term time, from 1.00pm. Carers, babies and toddlers meet for play, craft, snacks, songs a short story and a prayer.



UKRAINE FUNDRAISING

Frindsbury Handbell Ringers are holding a concert to fundraise for Ukraine – everyone is welcome to come along on Friday 6 May at 7.00pm to All Saints Parish Hall. Donations on the door.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Thank you to everyone who returned their stewardship form – if you haven't done so yet, it's not too late! Please bring to church or pass to Nicholas or Sue.

APCM and ELECTORAL ROLL

This year our APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be on Sunday 29 May 10.00am. The revision of our Electoral Roll takes place on Sunday 1- Friday 6 May. The new roll will be published on Sunday 8 May. The Electoral Roll is our church membership list - being on the roll allows you to stand as a church officer and to vote at the APCM. Most of you will already be on the existing roll and therefore do not need to complete a new form but please check the list at the back of our churches. To join the roll, please complete a form which is at the back of churches and pass to Andrew, Electoral Roll Officer, or Sue, Administrator. **Forms need to be returned by the end of April, please.**

Del had given advance notice at the last APCM that this would be his last year as churchwarden. Therefore, there is a vacancy. Whilst churchwardens customarily serve for 3-4 years, they are elected each year, so it is not a 'life sentence'. It is a significant burden for a parish to place the responsibilities on a single warden and so I hope that someone will give consideration to this important role.

ECO CHURCH

As a church we would like to be better stewards of our planet and so we have committed to being part of the Eco Church network and work to become more 'eco-friendly'.

This month's Green Tip is:

Green Tips



Don't throw away your egg shells - break them up and use them in your garden around your vegetables and plants as a safe way to deter slugs!

DONATIONS TO THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF THIS PARISH

Our financial year is coming to a close. It is a year in which we have had to invest a significant sum in the care of our buildings. Unfortunately, our regular giving has dropped and plate offerings at all

services have been significantly reduced by not passing the plate around as part of our COVID protection measures.

Donations can be made at our services by cash or cheque in the collection plate, a stewardship envelope or standing order for regular giving please speak to Nicholas, the Churchwardens, Sue Jones or Alison Mings.



We are now also offering this QR code in our printed materials. Scanning the code with the camera on your smart phone will take you to the Give a Little page for our parish. You can choose how much, whether to Gift Aid, and request a receipt.

SAFEGUARDING – VOLUNTEER ROLE AGREEMENTS

The Church of England Safeguarding Requirements expect all members who have already have a voluntary role in church to complete a Volunteer Agreement. These will start to be sent out to you by email or post. If you need a printed copy, please contact Sue Jones on 01634 296050. Please sign and return within the next week if possible. You will require two referees, and these will be provided by the Church Wardens.

PRAYER CHAIN

Carole Morrad has asked me to remind you that the Prayer Chain are always willing to take prayer requests. If the prayer is not for you then we do ask that you have the permission of the person you are asking us to pray for.

DEMENTIA RESOURCES

At this time, those who live with dementia are understandably disoriented and upset. It has been a difficult and concerning time for their families too. Carole and Annie, our Anna Friends, have gathered some resources which are now available on the website. In particular there are a number of online training and awareness courses available at no cost.

SAFEGUARDING RESOURCES

RELEASE THE PRESSURE - new helpline from Kent County Council
Mental well-being remains a huge concern at this time.

A new phone line is available through Kent County Council, offering 24/7 access to a highly trained and experienced team, to provide expert support no matter what a person is going through. People are encouraged not to suffer in silence and to text the word Kent to 85258 or call the number 0800 107 0160, for free confidential support.

SAFE HAVENS

Mental Health Matters can help any resident of Kent or Medway aged 16+ by offering a warm, welcoming, safe and comfortable environment. Contact: 07850 901151 or 07808 79503

CONTACT US

Vicar: The Reverend Nicholas Cooper	01634 717580	vicar@allsaintsfrindsbury.org.uk
Pioneer Minister: The Revd Sue Vallente-Kerr	07940 161044	pioneer@allsaintsfrindsbury.org.uk
Administrator: Sue Jones	01634 296050	pa@allsaintsfrindsbury.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Vicki Webster	01634 515580	webstervictoria95@gmail.com
Parish Hall Team	07526 094 017	roomhire@allsaintsfrindsbury.org.uk

Prayer Diary 1-7 May 2022

“...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” *(Philippians 4:6)*

Prayers from the Church of England to use

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations ...

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry ...

and nourish us all with your word.

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,

be with us and all who follow you in the way ...

Deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life.

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,

recover the straggler, bind up the injured,

strengthen the sick and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,

we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you ...

Raise us with them to eternal life.

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us,
accept our prayers, and be with us always.
Amen.

Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,

we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Church's Ministry	<i>Praying for the people, groups and mission and outreach of the churches in our parish, diocese and worldwide Anglican communion</i>
Community	<i>Praying for our community, our parish and Medway</i>
People of the Parish	<i>Praying for those who live in Frindsbury and Wainscott, (FW), Upnor (U), Chattenden (C) and those who work on Medway City Estate (MCE)</i>

Easter 3	Sunday, 1 May
Church's Ministry	<i>Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.</i> Pray we too may shine with the light of the risen Christ
Community	Give thanks for family life and those we hold dear in our hearts, praying for their health, well-being and hope.
People of the parish	Gambit Way (FW), Lingley Drive (FW), Admiralty Road (U), Mill Close (FW), Sholden Road (FW)
	Monday, 2 May
Church's Ministry	Pray for the work of Tearfund (our supported charity) and other organisations working through DEC to bring aid and support to the people of Ukraine.
Community	Pray for all in education: teachers, support staff and administrators, pupils and students; pray for Temple Mill School
People of the parish	Admiralty Terrace, (U), Mill Close (FW)
	Tuesday, 3 May
Church's Ministry	Pray for our Pioneer Minister, Sue Vallente-Kerr and family
Community	Pray for Pilgrims Pantry, our church café – for those volunteering and those coming along and for Little Lights – our baby and toddler group
People of the parish	Albion Place (U), Miller Way (FW), Smeatham Gardens (FW)
	Wednesday, 4 May
Church's Ministry	Give thanks and pray for our pastoral team
Community	Pray for the elderly, isolated and vulnerable; pray for those who care for them that they would be strengthened and encouraged. Pray for staff and residents of Ampersand House
People of the parish	Anthony's Way (MCE), Millpond Close (FW), Spire Way (FW)
	Thursday, 5 May
Church's Ministry	Pray for our Area Dean, Rev Mark Borley
Community	Pray for those in positions of authority making decisions at national and local level; pray for local councillors in Strood North and Strood Rural
People of the parish	Ashcroft Road (FW), Moat Lane (U), Station Road (North West) (FW)
	Friday, 6 May
Church's Ministry	Pray for our Diocesan and Parish Safeguarding Officers and teams
Community	Pray for hospital and hospice chaplains and their teams
People of the parish	Ashenden Close (FW), Stonehorse Court (FW)
	Saturday, 7 May
Church's Ministry	Pray for all who are struggling in body, mind or spirit
Community	Pray for all community keyworkers. Pray for all working in health and social care
People of the parish	Banks Road (FW), Murray Road (FW), Stonehorse Lane (FW)