

Upcoming dates for your diary (*details below*)

All Ages August Cafe in St. Mary's	Every Weds in Aug 10am-noon
Confirmation Service in Canterbury Cathedral	Sat 7 th Nov 11am
Wednesday Bible study restarts	16 th Sept 12noon
Church Pantomime – “A lad in a manger”	Sat & Sun 12 th & 13 th Dec Afternoon

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. **Rev Andrew**

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. **Cathy Arnold**

St Mary's Church Pantomime – “We Need You! Ooooh! yes we do...”

St Mary's Church is planning to put on a nativity based Panto called **“A Lad In A Manger”**. This will be presented on the afternoons of 12 & 13th December but we need you to volunteer now.

This will be a community building event — creating a fun, intergenerational project that brings together church members, local families, and the wider village.

If you are interested in knowing more about being part of this in some way, then speak to David or Louisa after the service - sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

David and Louisa are also directing **“The Importance of being Earnest”** with GAPS Production - based at Garlinge Theatre, Garlinge Green. This is on the 2nd- 4th October 2026. If you are interested in coming to see the production tickets are available from

<https://www.ticketsource.com/garlinge-amateur-productions> or speak to **Louisa or David**.

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**



Wednesday Bible study

Our Wednesday Bible Study will recommence on **September 16th at 12 noon** when we will continue our study of St Mark's gospel. **Gerry & John Willis**

Afghan Welcome Project: *We now have 5 team members, so we just need one more - although 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**

Safeguarding Survey - please can you help?

As you may be aware INEQE Safeguarding Group have been commissioned to conduct Independent Safeguarding Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses and cathedrals are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. As part of the audit process for Canterbury, INEQE hope to engage with parishioners and members of the parish community through an online survey which will act as a mechanism through which individuals can comment on any matters relevant to the Audit's focus. The survey is both anonymous (we are not seeking to identify you) and confidential (you will not be identified). We would therefore ask you to be open and honest with your responses. The survey results are received directly by INEQE's Audit Team and not by the Church of England. The survey is now live and will close at 11.30 pm on Wednesday 2nd of September 2026. To access the survey relevant to you please visit:

<https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/canterbury/> or scan the QR code. **Rev Andrew**



Collects and readings

Sun 2nd Aug: Family Praise

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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.

Matthew 14:13-21

Sun 9th Aug: Family Communion

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of
your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things
as shall please you;
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.

Deuteronomy 10:12-22, Matthew 25:31-40

Sun 16th Aug

2 Kings 5:1-5, Mark 10:13-16

A copy of this notice sheet, including any electronic links, can be found on our church website by following this QR code:

