

Parish and Community

The Link

St Mildreds Road



Westgate Bay Avenue

Westgate Bay Avenue



St Mildreds Road

**April
2026**

**The Magazine of
St Saviour's Parish Church**

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST SAVIOUR WESTGATE ON SEA

Website www.stsaviourswestgate.org.uk

Email office@stsaviourswestgate.org.uk



Priest In Charge The Revd Jeffrey Foulger

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Revd Susan Wing

The Revd Barbara Way



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If you read what I wrote last month, you may recall I explained some of the reasoning behind why the date of Easter changes every year. One important fact that I did not mention is that in 2026 the Financial Year starts on Easter Sunday 5th April.

Before the transition to the new Gregorian Calendar took place in 1752 the Tax Year ended on March 25th. When the changes were applied it was realised that the ensuing year would be shorter and taxes would only be collected for 11 months. So, the start date of the new taxation period was changed to April 5th thus allowing the UK Exchequer to account for 12 months' worth of taxes. There is obviously truth in what Benjamin Franklin said "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

The taxation implications of Easter this year are something that probably only Accountants will be interested in, but aside from this we have a reason to be grateful this Easter because we will have a new Archbishop of Canterbury installed.

For those of us working and worshipping in the local churches this means we also have a new Bishop. This is because as well as being the most senior Bishop in the Church of England, Dame Sarah is also the Diocesan Bishop of Canterbury. On a day-to-day basis she is supported in this ministry by Bishop Rose- the Bishop of Dover.

You can read about Dame Sarah here www.canterburydiocese.org/our-life/our-people/the-archbishop-of-canterbury/

Of course, it is to be expected that an Archbishop should be a Christian as they must carry out the sacramental duties of a Priest, but how their faith is demonstrated and worked out is what separates the ordinary and the extraordinary Archbishops. There have been 105 Archbishops previously and now Dame Sarah is the 106th.

Being a Christian isn't just a matter of a job specification or employment function; it is a living faith that connects to God and sustains even in the troubled times.

During the Easter season we remember the awful times that Jesus and His disciples faced when he was tried and condemned to death. How the Jewish great hope of a Messiah to free them from the oppressive rule of Rome was tangible at the Passover festivals and how the crucifixion of Jesus seemed to put paid to any hope the disciples might have had.

Keeping their heads down the disciples shrunk away from the crowds in Jerusalem who only a short time before had been shouting 'Hosanna.' Some even went back to their old jobs. A weight of crushing failure was on them.

It wasn't long, however, before news filtered through that the women had found the tomb was empty, the stone had been rolled away, and the linen body wrappings lay in a heap. Then it turned out the gardener was not who he seemed and the women recognised Jesus. It took a number of days for the disciples to realise what had happened; then the miracle of the resurrection became understood and the words of Jesus at the Last Supper echoed in their minds...

"You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy" (John 16:20).

I pray that during the Easter season, despite taxes and the gloom of the world news, you will find joy in the Good News of Jesus Christ who overcame the cross of death, so that our lives might be fulfilled. If you would like to understand more about this, please contact me.

Rev Jef Foulger

HOLY



WEEK



PCC Report

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) met on 26th February and was chaired by Christine Bolger (Lay Chair, Churchwarden, Parish Safeguarding Officer (Adults) and lay representative to Deanery Synod). Also present were the Revd Jeffrey Foulger (Priest in Charge), Christine Attwood (Churchwarden and PCC Secretary), Ron Hodges, Chris Joiner Steve Short (Verger), Kathleen Staziker and Alan Turner and Sue Turner.

Re-introducing a weekly pew sheet was discussed but, as no one had come forward to edit it, the matter was left in abeyance until the annual parochial meeting on 26th April. It had not proved possible to include Sunday readings in the parish magazine because they were not always known in advance. We were delighted to learn that Valda Neve was willing to continue editing the parish magazine until the autumn when Microsoft Publisher (a software program) becomes obsolete. Unfortunately, the vacancy for PCC Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary was ongoing.

Reports were given on finance, church fabric and fundraising. Church licences for copyright and music reproduction had been renewed for a further year. Following complaints about the small print size of the new Bibles, magnifying sheets to be purchased. The balance in the general account at the end of January 2026 was £8,087.29, but transfers from investment accounts totalling £51,500 had been made at the beginning of February towards the final bill for roof repairs. Completion of the work, including fitting 4 new Velux windows in the vestry area and removal of scaffolding, was expected by Easter. Plans to install WIFI were ongoing. St Saviour's was taking part in the Town Council's Blooming Westgate 2026. Details were given of the first monthly draw at Easter (tickets available from Chris Joiner), stalls at the summer fair on 25th July 2026 (to include a plant stall in memory of the late Graham Neve), and the need for volunteers to run stalls at the fair or to knit poppies to cascade from the bell tower on Remembrance Sunday. Please contact Chris or Sue Turner, if you can help.

The minutes of this PCC meeting were agreed when the PCC met again on 24th March, and a copy will be added to the file at the back of the church during April.

Christine Attwood

PCC Secretary

St Saviour's Church, Westgate



THURSDAY 2nd April

7.30pm Holy Communion

with foot washing,

stripping the altar followed

by a short vigil & Compline

St Saviour's Church, Westgate



FRIDAY 3rd APRIL

9.30am All Age Interactive Service
Everyone welcome. Hot cross buns
served afterwards.

11am Walk of Witness from Christ
Church URC to St Saviour's

2pm MUSIC & MEDITATION for the
last hour at the Cross at St Saviour's.

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

EASTER SUNDAY

5th APRIL



10.30am Festal Eucharist
Followed by refreshments



Services in April

Maundy Thursday (2nd April) Holy Communion at 7.30pm with foot washing and stripping the altar followed by a short vigil and ending, by 9.00pm with Compline

Good Friday (3rd April) All age service and making the Easter Garden at 9.30am

Walk of Witness leaving outside Christ Church United Reformed Church at 11.00am (coffee available in the church from 10.45am) and ending in St Saviour's followed by refreshments

Music and Meditation for the Last Hour on the Cross at 2.00pm

Easter Sunday (5th April) Festal Eucharist at 10.30am followed by refreshments

Sunday 12th April Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at 9.00am

Sung Eucharist 10.30am followed by refreshments

Holy Baptism 12.30pm

Sunday 19th April Café Church 10.30am

Holy Baptism 12.30pm

Sunday 26th April Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at 9.00am

Shortened Holy Communion (Common Worship) 10.30am followed by annual meetings with refreshments at 11.00am

Annual Meetings

Every year about this time we are required to hold 2 important meetings: an annual meeting of parishioners and an annual parochial church meeting (APCM). This year, the meetings will take place on Sunday 26th April starting at 11am (immediately after the 10.30am Eucharist) in Church.

The first meeting (Annual Meeting of Parishioners) can be attended by anyone who lives in the parish or is on the Church Electoral Roll. The only item of business is to elect 2 churchwardens to serve for 1 year.

The APCM follows immediately afterwards and only those on the Church Electoral Roll can stay on for it. Business includes electing 2 lay people to represent us on Thanet Deanery Synod,

electing 7 members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC), appointing the independent examiner of the church accounts and hearing reports about the activities of our church since the APCM held in May last year. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

Nomination forms will be placed at the back of church in April, and anyone interested should speak to me for more information.

Please put the date in your diary and show your support for the future of St Saviour's by coming along on Sunday 26th April. Thank you.

Christine Attwood

PCC Secretary



Confirmation 28 February 2026

“Don’t endure, enjoy” said Bishop Rose and we enjoyed. 29 candidates from across Thanet and across the ages gathered for the Confirmation service at St Luke’s Ramsgate. The church was full and joy abounded. Our three candidates – Vanessa, Danny and Edward were more excited than I, and that is saying something. We went through a long service with baptisms, renewal of baptismal vows, receiving into the CE and some who were there for confirmation only. The candidates ranged from teenagers to the elderly. With Bishop Rose in charge, you always know that it will be lively yet full of spirituality and you never know when she might lead us in unexpected song! Excitement, joy, commitment showed on all the candidates faces and for many of us, there as supporters, a feeling of privilege and humility to be alongside those giving their lives to Christ publicly. You might see some of the joy on the faces of our candidates in the photo and it was my great privilege and delight to take their first Communion Service a week later.

FROM THE REGISTERS

For those Baptised

“Shine as a light in the world, to the Glory of God the Father”

For those joined in Holy Matrimony

“God our Father, pour out your blessing on all joined in Holy Matrimony; that they may be joined in mutual love and companionship, in holiness and commitment to each other”

The Sick

“Lord, grant your healing presence to all who suffer in body, mind or spirit”

The Departed

“Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word”

We give thanks for the life of those who now rest in eternal peace, and pray for their families and friends

For those whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

“Dear God, we thank you for the rest in Christ they now enjoy, and thank you for giving them to us”

World War 2 Roll of Honour for this month

Ernest Turner 10th April 1941 Patrick Johnstone 11th April 1945

Eric Baldwin 13th April 1945 John Ross, Clayton Aughinbaugh, Bernard Fink, Nicholas Rich and Ben Munford (crew of US Air Force B24 Liberator “Knucklehead”) 27th April 1944:

John Johnstone 29th April 1944

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

FRIDAY "POP IN"

Pop in for a cup of tea/coffee & a
biscuit or two & a chat

In St Saviour's Church between
10.30am & 12noon every Friday.

Meet friends & make new ones, you
will be very WELCOME.



Coffee & Chat

News from St Saviour's Church of England School

There were scenes of rejoicing in our playground last week which could melt the hardest of hearts. What delighted our children so much? Wednesday marked the first day that children were allowed to have their lunchtime break on the school field. The lovely sunshine finally dried the mud on the cricket field and the cold wind dropped. Children love the open space of the field and the opportunities for exploring the cricket boundaries, with their multitude of interesting sticks and patches of dirt to dig in. When I announced that we would go up to the field, the news was greeted with the kind of cheer you would normally hear at the world cup!

The onset of spring had brought other changes. Mr Arnold our mighty Deputy Headteacher and SENDCo, is preparing for retirement. I would like to pay tribute to Mr Arnold's unceasing dedication to the children at St. Saviour's. Mr Arnold has one of the strongest work ethics and moral compass of anyone I have ever known. Miss Cook, Year 5 leader (and Mr Arnold's wife) shares these characteristics, she is an amazing teacher. Miss Cook will also be retiring at the end of the academic year. We have appointed an Assistant Headteacher / SENDCo, Mr McPherson. We are also about to appoint a Safeguarding Officer to share the increasing caseload of vulnerable children.

In other news, I will also be leaving at the end of this academic year. I have been at St. Saviour's for twenty years and headteacher for fourteen. I would like to thank the children, staff, governors and families of St. Saviour's for making my time at the school such a pleasure. Leading such a great school has been a huge honour.

Nick Bonell, Headteacher

Whilst you are welcome to take and enjoy a copy of “The Link”, donations towards the cost of printing would be appreciated,. **THANK YOU**

The deadline for MAY 2026 “The Link” is
SUNDAY 26th APRIL 2026

Hi Kent Hearing Aid Clinic

Westgate Council Office (Opposite the Cinema)

Every **SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 10.30am to 11.30am.** Batteries, tubes and advice



If you would like a flower arrangement in Church in memory of a loved one, we can supply this at any time. Donations from £10.

Moist Chocolate Cake

Ingredients

150g butter
175g castor sugar
3 eggs
175g SR flour
3tbs cocoa
1 tsp instant coffee
1tbs boiling water
60ml vegetable oil
100g dark chocolate in chunks
Topping - grated milk chocolate

Method

1. Set oven 160c and line a 80cm tin
2. Cream together the butter and sugar, add the eggs one at a time. Sift in the flour and cocoa. In a cup, add the coffee and boiling water, stir and add the oil. Mix well.
Stir in the chocolate chunks. Pour into the lined tin.
3. Bake in the centre of the oven for 45 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean.
Turn out onto a wire rack.
Once cool grate milk or dark chocolate over the top.

Pam

X



X J U D A S C U T F R I S E N
 R O I X B U C O C K E R E L M
 U C Y A D I R F E M C H I C K
 M E R U G B J N O G A R D X T
 V T Z U W K T C Z U P B H L V
 R N B C C E R W Z A P E T E R
 E I C U E I A Y A D S R U H T
 T A U F N S F W A M E L S O R
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April
 Bun
 Chick
 Cockerel
 Cross
 Crucifixion
 Dragon
 Easter



Egg
 Feet
 Friday
 George
 Good
 Hot
 Judas
 Maundy



Peter
 Risen
 Rose
 Saint
 Thursday
 Washing

	5						3	
1						5	7	2
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	1	5	2	3				
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A message from Sarah Hammond, Church and Community Relationships Coordinator for Safe Families and Home for Good.

I am so grateful for your support and encouragement of Safe Families and Home for Good's work in East Kent over the last year; we have seen lives transformed through connection, relationship, and love.

But please could I also ask for much needed, urgent prayer?

Sadly, we have heard that our ongoing funding will come to an end at the end of March and we need to find £46,000 in order to ensure the future of our family support projects in Thanet and Canterbury.

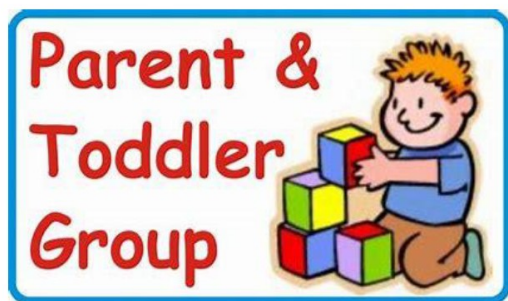
We believe in a God who can do so much more than we can ask or imagine and have seen miraculous answered prayer again and again. Please do join us in lifting this to the Lord and share with anyone who might stand with us in prayer.

With grateful thanks,

Sarah

St Saviour's Church, Westgate

TODDLER TIME



Meets

MONDAY MORNINGS

(Term time only)

9.15am to 11.30am

**For pre-school children
and carers**



A LORRY, A WHEELBARROW, SPAGHETTI EXHAUST

I thought I would add to my workshop recollections from the 1970's.

Firstly a lorry! There was a coal merchants nearby & one day a lorry arrived on the garage forecourt. We didn't work on lorries normally but after the driver spoke to our Foreman the lorry was driven into the workshop. There were inspection pits that were covered with wooden planks. Suddenly there was an almighty cracking sound followed by a bash! A front wheel had broken some planks of wood descended into the pit. Now the lorry was stuck & wouldn't go forwards or back.

The car jacks were not man enough to lift this monster but we did have one very large jack that lived in the corner of the workshop. It was heavy & cumbersome but it was the one thing that could lift a lorry. There was a lot of commotion & activity in getting this lorry out of the pit. Eventually the lorry was rescued but we never had another one in our garage!

Another time I saw a man talking to our Foreman in the office (which was actually a garden shed in the corner of the workshop!) he later returned with what looked like a rather heavy duty wheelbarrow, it was in need of a new tyre. When the new tyre arrived the next day the Foreman took it upon himself to fit it while the rest of us carried on with our jobs. Now I do not know if he was distracted by something while inflating the new tyre but I remember hearing such a loud bang (it made me jump). I looked up & saw something flying across the workshop several feet in the air. Fortunately it didn't hit anybody or any car during its flight. It crashed into a wall then bang crashed its way to a stop.

It turned out that the actual metal wheel had split in two, one half set for flight while the other half just hit the wall in the tyre fitting bay. Such was the noise that the general manager & salesman rushed round to see what had happened! This resulted in a special metal cage installed & bolted to the floor in the tyre bay so we would put a new tyre/wheel inside the cage before inflating it (the dawn of health & safety!). When the wheelbarrow owner returned he didn't take the news that he now needed a new wheel too badly!

Now this exhaust system is so convoluted how are you supposed to get it to fit altogether, you get one pipe in the correct place then another pipe falls out. There are about 18 separate pipes in this exhaust system & in the world of motor racing they are often referred to as spaghetti systems!

Ah that's better 12 sections are together before another pipe falls out of place! Drat & double drat. Eventually after many hours over a period of a few days & many squeezes of glue the complete exhaust is in place. Okay I confess, this is a model of a Matra Grand Prix car that I made from a plastic kit in 1970. It measures about 14 inches from the tip of its nose to the tip of its exhaust pipes.

So, after 56 years what became of this car with spaghetti exhausts? I am pleased to report that it still exists as you can see in the photo.

I am rather proud of this construction after all these years – but I still don't like real spaghetti!

Your Scribe, Stephen (the Bruce).





1st WESTGATE RAINBOWS

For Girls aged 4 to 7 years

Meets Fridays in term time

4.15 to 5.15pm

Westgate Community Centre

APPLY HERE : <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Any queries: westgaterainbows@outlook.com



Changes to Canterbury Cathedral's Precincts Pass

Some members of our congregation recently found out that the Precincts Pass enabling free access to the Cathedral and grounds has been discontinued so many of us need to purchase its replacement, known as the Cathedral Pass. This costs £6 and is valid for five years. No discounts are available but children under 17 are not required to hold a ☐ pass and can visit free of charge with a Cathedral Pass-holding adult.

Please note no Pass or Visitor Ticket is necessary to attend services of worship in the Cathedral.

The new Pass can be held by anyone who;

Works in the old city of Canterbury ☐

Lives within 4 miles of Bell Harry tower, including ☐ within The Precincts ☐

Is a member of the Cathedral Congregation ☐

Is immediate family of a Cathedral staff member ☐

Is a Cathedral Volunteer ☐

Is a member of any church in the diocese (on the ☐ parish electoral roll or equivalent) ☐

If you are a Friend of Canterbury Cathedral, please see the last paragraph of this article. Otherwise please apply for a Pass online at www.canterbury-cathedral.org or call 01227 762862.

By signing up to the Cathedral's Pass holder mailing list, you will also be kept up to date with all the latest information on services, events and activities at the Cathedral, often before general release.

If you would prefer not to purchase a Cathedral Pass, a ticket can be purchased on the day of your visit at the Cathedral's Visitor Centre. The standard visitor ticket is valid for 12 months, meaning you can re-visit the Cathedral as often as you want during that time at no extra cost.

Canterbury Cathedral can also be supported via Friends of Canterbury Cathedral membership. This is available to anyone, regardless of location, and offers free visitor entry, a range of free or discounted events, and discounts in the Cathedral Shop and Lodge for an annual membership fee. To become a Friend, please visit <https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/get-involved/become-a-friend/>

Diocese of Canterbury

Guidance on the Distribution of Holy Communion

March 2025

The normal practice for the distribution of the bread and wine of Holy Communion in the Church of England has, since the reformation, been for both bread and wine to be consumed by each communicant and for wine to be distributed from a common cup.

From time to time there have been situations in which advice or instruction has been given to suspend the use of the common cup in a health emergency and following public health advice. Two examples of this this century have been the outbreak of “Swine ‘Flu” in the 2000s and, more significantly, the COVID-19 pandemic in the early 2020s. Many churches across the Diocese of Canterbury have not resumed the normal practice of distributing Holy Communion after the pandemic.

Since 2022 there have been no restrictions on the use of the common cup and on communion in both kinds. The House of Bishops’ COVID-19 Recovery Group’s advice states that

*Holy Communion should be administered in both kinds unless there is a clear and objective reason why there would be a significant risk in doing so, such as local public health warnings relating to coronavirus levels in your area. It is important that no pressure is placed on members of the congregation to receive the sacrament if they feel unable to do so. **Because of ongoing potential risks to health, an individual communicant may choose to receive only in the form of bread even if consecrated wine is being distributed.***

Therefore, normal practice should now be considered to be for Holy Communion to be distributed in both kinds (bread and wine) and that the common cup be used. Incumbents and Parochial Church Councils of churches where the common cup has not been reintroduced are encouraged to consider its reintroduction and that the normative practice of the Church of England be resumed across the Diocese. The use of individual glasses or cups for individual communicants remains unlawful.

Public health and good hygiene remain important. Therefore

- Those who feel unable to receive the common cup may receive Holy Communion in one kind (bread) only.
- Individual communicants may not dip the bread into the wine (intinction) themselves.
- Care should continue to be taken by those presiding at Holy Communion to maintain high levels of hygiene, including hand washing.
- Those who show symptoms of illness should take steps to minimise their contact with others, including at Holy Communion.
- In cases of particular need, individual communicants may request the minister to dip the bread in the wine (intinction) before giving it to the communicant. **However, this is the exception rather than the norm.**
- PCCs may continue to make local arrangements for how any greeting is organised at the Peace in services of Holy Communion.

+Rose Dover

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Toddler Time Group meets Monday mornings 9.15am to 11.30am. **TERM TIME ONLY.**

Bellringers Practice every Thursday 7.30 to 9pm.

Bible Study Group meet Thursday at 7pm, details & inquiries ring

Susan 836430 .

The Westgate Heritage Centre MEETS 1st SATURDAY of each month at Christchurch URC 10am to 12noon . Refreshments available. See website for further details.

The Friends of St Saviour's Church - Annual Membership Fee only £5

New members welcome. Join the Friends of St Saviour's church Subscription only £5 per year . All monies raised go towards the upkeep of the church and grounds. Membership forms at the back of the church or ring

Debbie Tel: 01843 446584 / 07896508399 email: drdebbie08@gmail.com

Church Cleaning As announced.

Friday Pop In 10.30am to 12 noon

St Saviour's Church has a Hearing Loop System

Large print Hymn Books are available.

Gluten Free wafers are also available please see

Sidespersons or Churchwardens



CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services

9am Holy Communion Prayer Book on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month .

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Service of the Word once a month when advertised.

Family Service for all ages the 1st Sunday of each month at 10.30am.

SEE NOTICES FOR SERVICES

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1st Westgate Rainbows Fridays 4.15 to 5.15pm

8th Westgate Brownies & Guides Fridays 5.30 to 7pm

Brownies for ages 7 to 10 years Guides for 10 to 16 years

Both held at the Community Centre, Westgate.

JOIN THE **ADVENTURE....**

Come along and try 1st Westgate-On-Sea
Scout Group for Boys and Girls

Where: The Billabong,
St. Crispins Road
Westgate-On-Sea CT8 8EB

When: Beavers: Tuesday 5:15pm—6:30pm
Cubs: Tuesday 6:45pm—8:15pm
Scouts: Thursday 7:00pm—9:00pm

Ages: Beavers: 5 3/4—8 years
Cubs: 8—10 1/2 years
Scouts: 10 1/2— 14 years

Contact: 1st Westgate-On-Sea Scout Group
Email: 1stwestgatescoutgroup@gmail.com