

Sunday 1st Sept 2024 – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

This Week's Services & Events

Sunday 01st September	8am BCP Morning Prayer	Ash
	9am Holy Communion	Ridley
	10am Morning Worship	Ash
	<i>Zoom link available to join this service – see email</i>	
Monday 02nd September	9am Holy Communion	All Saints Hartley
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene Longfield
	2.30pm – 4.30pm Chat & Craft	Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre
<i>Bring a craft or hobby & join together for a chat and refreshments</i>		
Tuesday 03rd September	9am Service of Morning Prayer	Ash
	10.30am Bible Study Group	Zoom
	<i>Please contact Susan Heads for more info/link (susan@rnwkgroup.org.uk)</i>	
Wednesday 04th September	10.15 – 11.45am Coffee & Chat	St Mary Magdalene Longfield
Thursday 05th September	9am Service of Morning Prayer	Ash
	10.15am No Ash Saplings this week	Ash
	10am Pop In	Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre
	2pm – 4.30pm The Space	Youth & Community Centre, NAG
	<i>Free and welcome to all refreshments, chat, games, or some peace!</i>	
Friday 06th September	9am Morning Prayer	Ridley
	12.30pm Yarn and Yap	St Mary Magdalene, Longfield
<i>Making blankets, hats and gloves for the homeless – light lunch provided</i>		
Saturday 07th September	9am The Big Breakfast	Hodsoll Street Village Hall

Sunday's Readings & Prayers

Collect

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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.
Amen.

New Testament reading: James 1:17-end

Every generous act of giving, with every
perfect gift, is from above, coming down from
the Father of lights, with whom there is no
variation or shadow due to change. In
fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth

by the word of truth, so that we would
become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.
Hearing and Doing the Word
You must understand this, my beloved: let
everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak,
slow to anger; for your anger does not
produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid
yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of
wickedness, and welcome with meekness the
implanted word that has the power to save
your souls.
But be doers of the word, and not merely
hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are
hearers of the word and not doers, they are
like those who look at themselves in a
mirror; for they look at themselves and,
ongoing away, immediately forget what they
were like. But those who look into the perfect

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law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Gospel reading:

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines." You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.' Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.' For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

Other readings: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 and Psalm 15

Post Communion prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Parish Safeguarding Officer Vacancy

We remain without a PSO for Ash and Ridley. This is a vital role in the life of our church and we are not properly equipped for our mission and ministry without one.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer is the key link between the diocese and the parish/s, concerning safeguarding matters. They have an overview of all church activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults, and will seek to ensure the implementation of safeguarding policy. The role can be taken by one person or shared, for example with one person covering children the other, for vulnerable adults.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will stir up the right person for this role – ***if that might be you and you would like more information please drop me an email or speak with Rhian.***

Prayer Ministry at Ash

From this Sunday prayer ministry will be available after every 10am Sunday service. This will be held in the Lady Chapel where two prayer ministers will be available to pray with you for whatever it is you may need prayer support for.

Details of who the ministers are each week will be displayed on the notice board and they will also be wearing a name badge so they can be easily identified.

We continue to pray that God will bless this time richly.

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Teddy Tower Thanks

A massive thank you to all involved for another fantastic Teddy Tower event. It was a beautiful day and such a fun community gathering. Thank you to the brave teddies who flew again, some now qualifying for 'frequent flyer' status! Thank you for your generous hearts – We raised £720 for the work of The Community Cupboard- awesome!

Ordination Service - Carol Bridge

Carol will be ordained Deacon at **3pm on 28th September 2024 at Rochester Cathedral**. She would like to warmly invite all from across the Group who would like to be at the cathedral to share in this special occasion. There are a number of centre nave tickets available from me on a first come first served basis - please email me to reserve a ticket. Once these tickets are gone, side nave and transept seating will be available so we could all go!!

Ride and Stride

Can you help out with this fundraising event on 14th September 2024 – it's an opportunity to raise money for Kent's churches and chapels by sponsoring your walk or cycle or being a welcoming smile at our churches. Jean Bentley is striding for Ash and Janet and team are riding for Ridley – so do seek them out for sponsorship opportunities. We also need folk to be at our churches to welcome weary riders and striders to offer them hospitality and encouragement. Please contact Cameron Clark at Ash (info also on the noticeboard) or Tricia Carr/Alistair Davidson at Ridley for more info.

Community Kindness Concert ... In Aid of Cancer Research UK

An evening of fabulous musical entertainment including folk, pop, rock and jazz in **Ash church on Sunday, 15th September 2024, at 7:30 pm**. Entrance to this concert is free.

Refreshments available.

Donations to Cancer Research UK can be made at the concert, or online by following this link <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/jan23> - poster attached

Messy Church

The first Messy Church will be held at **Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre 3pm – 5pm on Saturday 21st September**. A poster is attached please display if you are able and let your families and friends know the start date. poster attached

Quiet Day at Ridley

There will be a Creation themed quiet day at St Peter, **Ridley on Saturday 21st September from 10am – 4pm**. Come all day and bring lunch or maybe just come for the morning or afternoon session. Run by Jan Foreman this will be a wonderful opportunity to rest a while with our Lord. poster attached.

St Mary's Flower Festival

A 'Harvest Celebration' Flower Festival will be held at **St Mary, Fawkham on Saturday 28th September 10am – 6pm and Sunday 29th September 12pm – 5.30pm**. Free entry, with refreshments available and music from The Carmellos' on Saturday afternoon. – poster attached

Next Sunday's Readings

James 2:1-10, 14-17 / Mark.7:24-end

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